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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

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VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1876. NO. 123.

## FIRST EDITION.

### HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

THE TREASURY BILL REVIVED

THE ALBRIGHT AMENDMENTS KILLED

Monthly Statements of Sinking Fund.

Bocm Bill Passed in the Senate.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial
HARRISBURG, PA., February 3, 1876.
SENATE.

The Senate met at eleven A. M., and was called to order by Lieutenant Governor Latta.

The following bills were reported favorably from committees: Act to punish persons for pointing or discharging fire arms at other persons.

Act relating to the exemption of property from levy, sale or execution and distress for rent.

Act enlarging the powers of courts of equity in cases of partition.

Act regulating the publication of legal advertisements in papers of the party's choice.

Act to amend and consolidate the several acts relating to game and game fish.

Act authorizing the establishment of a school for deaf mutes.

The following bills were introduced: Mr. Dunkle—Authorizing the Auditor General to examine and settle all military claims.

Mr. Newmyer—A supplementary act to regulate the practice of medicine, surgery and obstetrics. The above bill requires physicians to record their names and residence with the board of health.

Act for the more certain and equal assessment of taxes. This bill provides for the classification and taxation of property in three classes, business, rural and farming, and is intended to give relief to the rural districts from excessive taxation.

Act to reorganize the Congressional districts of Pennsylvania so as to attach the counties of Colliers to the Twenty-second Congressional district.

Mr. Strang rose to a question of privilege, and moved the reconsideration of the vote by which the bill authorizing money from the sinking fund was defeated. Agreed to.

Mr. Watson moved the reconsideration of the votes had on third reading and Mr. Albright's amendments to the second section, placing Albright's amendments again before the Senate. The amendments of Mr. Albright provided that the State Treasurer should give a monthly account of all interest, bonus, premium or other consideration received for the use of State funds on deposit. The yeas and nays were called on the amendment which was defeated by a vote of 8 yeas to 31 nays. The second section of the bill was agreed to.

Mr. Strang offered the following additional section as an amendment to the bill:

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the State Treasurer to render a statement of the sinking fund on the first business days of January, April, July and October, giving the balance remaining in the sinking fund in excess of the amount required to pay the interest on the public debt, whereupon the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund shall authorize the purchase during the fiscal agent of the State of loans of the State next maturing at the then market rates; provided, such purchases can be made for the benefit of the sinking fund; provided further, that all such investments shall immediately be cancelled by said agent, and the certificate of the same be forwarded to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund in like manner as if said loan had been redeemed by the State.

SEC. 4. The State Treasurer shall, in his monthly report to the Auditor General, take credit for the amount of such purchases made by the said fiscal agent, and shall also give the date, amount and collector at Evansville. He asserted his innocence yesterday, and, before he was sentenced at Indianapolis on Tuesday, through his counsel, W. P. Fishback, presented the following note to Judge Gresham:

"With due deference to your Honor and the jury that found me guilty, I say now, in the presence of God and the world, that I am not guilty. During my connection with the Revenue Department, I have worked faithfully for the interests of the Government. I ask, for the sake of my family, that your Honor will be as merciful as the circumstances will permit.

"J. K. HILL."

The Court held that Hill's offense was of a deeper dye than the other revenue officers, since his position was a higher one, and the trust betrayed more strong. Hill claims that he worked honestly and faithfully for the Government. He is forty-three years old, and has a wife and eight children.

Philip C. Ebernine was sad and silent, having nothing to say to any one, but gazing vacantly upon those in the room. He is thirty-five years old, has blue eyes and dark hair, slightly tinged with gray. In a note to Judge Gresham, before sentence was pronounced, he said: I withheld nothing from the United States attorney when called upon, but gave them the evidence upon which my own indictment was found and that of others. I am unfortunately a pensioner upon the Government. I bear three severe and honorable wounds as a reward for three years' good service as a private soldier. I am maimed for life and unable to do any manual labor. It was my helpless condition and poverty coupled with a desire to save my little home from being sold from me that caused me to listen to the oily words of the seducer."

Miller is thirty-one years old. He says that his punishment is out of all proportion to his offense. He said that he never would have been in the ring, only that all the officers were in, and if he kept out he would have them all to fight, and that to save his position he went in. He is a married man, but has no children. His health is delicate.

John S. Phillips thinks the sentence terrible. He was in the army four years, and was badly wounded. He said the distillers got him into it by stating that they would have to shut down or run crooked; that he was living in a comfortable home for his family, and did not want to lose his position. Philips is about fifty years of age, has dark hair and eyes, has a wife and four children in straitened circumstances. He takes his sentence hard.

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H. B. Snyder appeared indifferent to all around him, and looked sad and gloomy. After the prisoners had shaken hands with their friends and bade them good bye, they were marched out of the office into the prisoners' reception room, by Deputy Warden Craig. They were there relieved of such articles as they had about them which it was contrary to the rules for them to keep. Warden Howard held no conversation with the prisoners, and will treat them just as the regulations require. They were next taken to the prison barber, where their hair was cut and their whiskers shaved off. They were then taken to the clothing department, and the zebra or striped convict suit given them, which they put on, and which altered them so much that they were scarcely recognizable. When fully rigged out they were taken to the house and assigned their quarters and cells. They will not at present have any work to do, as the convicts are all idle.

MORE INDICTMENTS AT MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, February 3.—The Grand Jury in the United States Circuit Court was discharged to-day, after returning six additional indictments. Among the parties indicted are R. K. Adams, ex-Gauger; Jacob Ninnemacher, Louis Heller and Gerhard Wimper. The other two are reported to be Chicago burglars, who entered into negotiation with the distillers last summer, proposing that if they were paid a certain sum to break into the Collector's office and destroy all papers that were to be used against the ring.

### CASUALTIES.

A Railroad Bridge Smashed and Several Men Injured.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN., February 3.—While clearing snow from the Midland Railroad yesterday, a plow left the track and, crashing into the bridge over the Willimatic river, smashed it down, and bridge, plow and engine tumbled into the river, together with nine men on the plow and cab. Those on the plow were more or less bruised and cut, while those on the cab, in addition to other wounds, were severely scalded—one or two fatally. The mail and passenger train was flagged by a man who extricated himself from the *debris* in time to prevent it plunging into the wreck.

The Portland, Oregan, Board of Trade wants Congress to build a military telegraph line from that city to Astoria, and would also like to have Alaska freed from military jurisdiction by having it attached to Washington Territory as a county.

### TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Rubenstein, the alleged murderer of his cousin, Sarah Alexander, near Brooklyn, is endeavoring to starve himself to death.

James W. Hardin, a man more noted for bad than for good deeds, was shot from ambush by unknown parties, yesterday, in Carthage, Mo., and instantly killed.

The assets of Harris, Chipman & Co., of Boston, are $158,860, and their liabilities $23,396. They offer 37½ cents on the dollar, but the creditors threaten proceedings in bankruptcy unless they are given fifty cents at thirty days.

### WHISKY FRAUDS.

RECEPTION OF PRISONERS AT THE INDIANA PENITENTIARY—HOW THEY LOOK AND WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY.

LOUISVILLE, KY., February 3—The Indianans, recently tried and convicted at Indianapolis for complicity in whisky frauds, were placed in the State prison at Jeffersonville, last evening. The prisoners, previous to their present trouble, occupied high positions, and were numbered among the best citizens of Evansville. Their names and term of sentence are as follows: James K. Hill, two years and six months; Albert McGrill, two years; William Munford, two years; David M. Lewis, two years; George T. Simonson, Phillip C. Ebernine, two years; Harrison Miller, two years; John S. Phillips, two years, and Hiram B. Snyder, two years. The sentence read, "for hard labor for the terms specified, for violation of the revenue laws." The prisoners were delivered to the custody of Warden Howard by Mr. J. S. Bigelow, Deputy United States Marshal of Indiana. A *Courier-Journal* reporter succeeded in having a talk with the prisoners after they arrived at the prison. On entering the room, the first man noticed by the reported was McGrill. He was sitting on a smoking lounge, with his face buried in his hands, the picture of grief and dispair. The reporter touched him lightly on the shoulder, when he started and raised his head. His face looked careworn and haggard, and his eyes were suffused with tears. He is an old man, sixty winters having whitened his hair. He has an open, frank and honest countenance, and would be taken for a gentleman. "Mr. McGrill, I am sorry to see you here; I believed I was were more sinned against than sinning, and hoped you would pull through." "It was no use; my counsel did everything they could for me." After a pause, he continued: "My God! to think that I would ever come to a place like this! It will kill me! My heart is crushed now!" He spoke in a voice deep with emotion, and was greatly agitated. "If it were not for my poor wife and son, I believe I could stand it; but to think of the disgrace brought upon them is more than I can bear. It will kill my wife; she is sick now, and this will kill her. But I regret my connection with the Revenue Department. I have worked faithfully in the interests of the Government. I ask, for the sake of my family, that your Honor will be as merciful as the circumstances will permit.

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## SECOND EDITION.

### WASHINGTON.

New Thirty Year Bonds.

The Question of Specie Resumption.

HOUSE COMMITTEE FAVOR REPEAL.

Carrying Petroleum on Passenger Steamers.

New and More Stringent Rules to be Adopted.

Arrest of a Notorious Bond Forger.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1876.
The New Thirty-Year Bonds.

The Secrefary of the Treasury stated today, before the Committee on Ways and Means, that if the four and a half per cent. bonds were made a thirty-year bond, instead of fifteen, and the aggregate amount increased to $500,000,000, he had no doubt he would be able to negotiate them immediately and continue the retirement of the six per cents. The committee will probably report in accordance with these views.

Resumption in Committee.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency have had several conferences on the specie resumption question. It is intimated that the disposition of the committee is favorable to a repeal of the specie resumption act. It is proposed, however, not to report a bill until the Democratic caucus has reached a conclusion on the subject.

Carrying of Petroleum on Steamers.

The Board of Supervising Inspectors, in session for some days, having disposed of their routine matters, are now considering the carrying of petroleum on passenger steamers. Mr. Herbst, of Pittsburgh, and Merrill, of Boston, have made some experiments before the Board, exhibiting the various qualities of oil. The law requires that no oil shall be carried on passenger steamers which will ignite under 300 degrees. Mr. Herbst's oil flashed at 143 degrees, but was recorded at 151 degrees. The oil used by Mr. Elliott stood the test of 296 degrees. The object in view was to ascertain at what temperature it would be safe to carry oil on passenger steamers. The said reconsideration generally favor a lower temperature. In the Board of Supervisors there exists a wide difference of opinions. Several members are in favor of prohibiting its transportation entirely on passenger steamers. This is deemed inadvisable. The lesson of the Ocean Queen demands some action. There is no doubt but some very stringent rule will be adopted. The sub-committee on conference is also giving the question close attention in connection with the Supervising Inspectors, and will recommend legislation if the case seems to require it.

Bond Forger Captured.

A dispatch received here to-night states that J. Nicholson Elbert, of Phiadelphia, the notorious bond forger, for whom the secret service men have been in search for some time, has been arrested in San Francisco, and is on his way to this city in custody of a secret service man *en route* for New York for trial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1876.
INCREASE OF FOUR-AND-A-HALF PER CENTS.

The Committee on Ways and Means considered to-day, without coming to any conclusion, the bill proposed by Fernando Wood, to increase the volume of four-and-a-half per cents. He made them $250,000,000, $500,000,000, and to extend the time for their redemption from fifteen to thirty years. The bonds are then to become payable on demand.

THE FORTIFICATION BILL.

The House Committee on Appropriations completed the Fortification bill to-day, appropriating for the protection, preservation and repair of fortifications and other works of defense, $100,000; for procuring heavy ordnance, $100,000; for projectiles of heavy ordnance, $25,000; for carriages for heavy guns, $15,000; for proving-ground and proving cannon, $25,000; for torpedoes, $50,000. The estimates were, for the armament of fortifications, $1,250,000; manufacture of arms, $500,000, and $150,000 for torpedoes and materials, and the Ordnance Department called for about $1,000,000 for fortifications. This latter amount, however, was not recommended by the Secretary of War. The Committee on Appropriations reduced the appropriation to $340,000.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MILITARY OPERATIONS.

An official cable dispatch from Madrid was received at the Spanish Legation, this evening, stating that as a result of the latest operations in the North, the Alfonsist forces have almost entirely gained possession of the provinces of Biscay and Alava. General Martinez Campos occupies the whole Valley of Bistan, intercepting the communication of the Carlists with France. The army of King Alfonso is now in the hills of Estella, under the personal command the Carlist stronghold of Estella.

ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

The National Republican Congressional Committee met to-night for the purpose of completing the organization for the campaign. The committee was called to order by Senator Cragin. On motion of Senator Logan, Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania, was unanimously elected Chairman. Senator Wadleigh, in Senator Cameron's absence, accepted the position for the latter in a few remarks. Hon. J. M. Edmunds was unanimously re-elected Secretary, E. B. Brooks withdrawing his candidacy for that office, and Jacob Tome was elected Treasurer. The committee proceeded to ballot for an executive committee and resident members for the District of Columbia, and the following is the Executive Committee: Senators Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Cragin, West, Logan and Dorsey, and Representatives Rusk, Hubbell, Simnickson and Platt.

REDUCTION OF PAY OF ARMY OFFICERS.

Representative Banning to-day reported from the Committee on Military Affairs the amended bill to regulate the pay and allowances of army officers, which was ordered to be printed and referred back to the committee. The alterations are as follows: General of the Army, $10,000 instead of $13,500; Lieutenant General, $8,000 instead of $11,000; a major general in command, present pay, namely, $7,500, but the pay of brigadier general is reduced to $6,000 instead of $5,500; a brigadier, $5,000 instead from $4,500 to $5,000 a year. The salaries of all others remain as now established by law.

### CRIMINAL RECORD.

Tortuous Land Speculations in Kansas—Property of Living Indians Administered Upon and Sold—Guilty Ones to be Prosecuted.

ST. LOUIS, February 3.—The *Globe-Democrat's* special from Topeka, Kansas, says the United States attorney has received documents from Washington in the matter of the Pottawatomie Indian frauds, with instructions to proceed at once against the parties accused of those frauds. It is alleged late to the collection of money and selling of lands by persons acting as bogus administrators of Indian estates. The Indians whose property was thus administered represented to be dead, but it now turns out that they are still alive, and have been residing at the Indian Territory. The extent of the rascality has not yet been determined, but it will probably reach $10,000. It involves several Indian traders, four land brokers and prominent politicians, among whom there is quite a stir.

Negro Lynched in Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, February 3.—It is reported that the negro assassin Augusto, who killed Col. Offutt in St. Landry parish on the 22d of January, was forcibly taken from jail shortly after his arrest, and hung in the presence of a large crowd of whites and blacks.

A Murderer Captured After a Long Chase.

MINNEOPOLIS, MINN., February 3.—The *Tribune* extra has the following from Kandiyohi: After a persistent pursuit of Johnson, the murderer of Wilson, he was caught in the woods near Kandiyohi, last night. He had been traced to Kandiyohi, and upon learning the officers were after him, he left the house of a friend and took to the woods, where he was kept for two days by friends in the vicinity. Detective Hay last evening discovered his retreat, and Johnson took to his heels with Hay after him. It was a spirited but determined chase of fifteen miles, when Hay overtook him about sixteen miles south of Kandiyohi. The prisoner confesses his guilt and talks freely about the crime.

### FIRE RECORD.

New York—$65,000.

NEW YORK, February 3.—A fire in Nos. 28 and 30 Beekman street, this morning, caused a loss of $65,000, of which $50,000 is suffered by Norman L. Munroe, publisher of widely circulated story papers. His insurance is $16,000.

## XLIV. CONGRESS.

### FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1876.
SENATE.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, in reply to a resolution of the Senate of the 31st ultimo, inclosing copies of the correspondence had with the committees of the Forty-third Congress, respecting the taxation of lands granted to States and corporations. Ordered printed and to lie on tables.

The CHAIR also laid before the Senate resolutions of workingmen of Detroit in favor of the repeal of the spicie resumption act. Referred. Similar resolutions were presented by Mr. Christiancy and referred to the same committee. In presenting the resolutions Mr. CHRISTIANCY said he did not agree with the views of the petitioners.

Mr. HITCHCOCK submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia, to inquire into the expediency of providing a proper form of government for the District of Columbia, and report by bill or otherwise. Agreed to.

Mr. EATON submitted a resolution that any further issue of 3-65 bonds authorized under or by virtue of the act of Congress of June 20, 1874, is hereby prohibited, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. He asked for the present consideration of the resolution, and said he had been informed by the best authority that one week ago to-day the board having power to issue these bonds passed a resolution that no more of the bonds should be issued for one week, they supposing that the question would have passed from the consideration of Congress by the expiration of that week. Since then, however, in defiance of that resolution, bonds to the amount of $100,000 have been issued. This information he had received from an entirely trustworth source, and had just as much confidence in it as if it had been told him by one of his brother Senators.

Mr. SARGENT asked if that resolution was not passed by the Sinking Fund Commission.

Mr. EATON replied that it was passed by the board having power to issue bonds.

Mr. SARGENT explained that the Sinking Fund Commission, one of whom is W. W. Corcoran. Objection was made to the present consideration of the resolution by Mr. CLAYTON, who demanded the regular order, the bill to repeal section 2,307 of the Revised Statutes of the United States making restriction in the disposal of public lands in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Florida. The pending question was an amendment of Mr. Thurman, in relation to the repeal of section shall not have the effect to impair the right, complete or inchoate, of any homestead settler, and no land occupied by such settler at the time this act shall take effect shall be subject to entry, pre-emption or sale.

Mr. LOGAN spoke in favor of the bill, and said the act was passed originally to enable colored people of the South to obtain homesteads. If every colored man in the South had a homestead, there would be millions of acres left, and that law now in existence was perfectly ruinous to those States.

Pending discussion, the morning hour expired, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of unfinished business, being House Joint resolution directing the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to cause the interest of moneys used in pursuance of the act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, of any fund in the United States Treasury subject to requisition of said Commissioners.

Mr. CLAY moved to lay that bill aside informally and proceed with the consideration of the bill in regard to certain soldiers and sailors of the late war of 1812, and widows of deceased officers, and to restore to the pension rotis those persons whose names have been stricken therefrom in consequence of disloyalty. Placed on the calendar.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the bill to pay interest on the 3-65 District of Columbia bonds, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. KELLOGG to appropriate $65 bonds under or by virtue of said act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, is hereby prohibited. Agreed to.

Mr. MORTON submitted an amendment as follows: "And there shall be no increase in the present amount of the total indebtedness of the District of Columbia." Agreed to.

Mr. HAMILTON, of Texas, submitted an amendment: Appropriating, further, that the paving and grading of streets and alleys be discontinued until authorized by law."

The CHAIR was informed that Messrs. Hamilton, Morrill, of Maine, Sargent, Saulsbury and Hager.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Hamilton to discontinue the paving and grading of streets, &c., Mr. KELLOGG said it was too sweeping, and should not be adopted.

Mr. DORSEY said that such effect would be to stop all repairs here, and certainly the Senate did not want to say that money collected from taxes could not be expended in improving or repairing the streets.

The amendment was rejected, yeas 31, nays 34. Messrs. Hamilton, Coke, Lamar, Morgan and Ogleshy voting with the Democrats in the affirmative.

Mr. EDMUNDS submitted an amendment that any officer or person who shall knowingly increase, add or affect the amount of the public indebtedness shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor. Agreed to.

The joint resolution was then reported to the Senate, and the question being first on the amendment proposed by the Committee on Appropriations, to strike out the resolution as follows: "And provided, That no appropriation of the 3-65 bonds is hereby prohibited; and provided further, that nothing in this resolution contained shall conflict in the payment of the United States in any obligation to pay the principal and interest of the 3-65 bonds which have been issued contrary to or not in pursuance of law, it was concurred in.

Mr. SYLVESTER offered an amendment providing that the Board of Audit created by the act of Congress for the investigation of indebtedness of the District of Columbia, approved June 20, 1874, is hereby abolished, and shall immediately go into liquidation; provided that this resolution, transmit all books and property in possession belonging to the District to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and make a report of their proceedings to Congress without delay.

Mr. EATON submitted an amendment as follows: "And provided further, That no part of the sum hereby appropriated shall be paid to any person who has not been so converted, and certificates hereafter to be issued by the Board of Audit of their acceptance of the offer shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of $100,000."

SEC. 2. That there shall be no increase in the present amount of the total indebtedness of the District of Columbia, and any officer or person who shall knowingly increase or aid or abet in increasing such total indebtedness, shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding ten years, and by fine not exceeding $10,000; provided, that the Board of Audit created by the act for the government of the District of Columbia, approved June 20, 1874, is hereby abolished, and shall immediately upon the approval of this resolution, transmit all books and property in their possession belonging to the District of Columbia, and make a report of their proceedings not heretofore made; and provided further, that this resolution shall not in any way or manner recognize the liability of the United States to pay certain principal or interest of any such bonds as may have been issued on or since the 27th day of January, 1876.

Mr. MORTON said that one week he gave notice that he would ask the Senate, to-day, to proceed to the consideration of the resolution for the admission of Pinchback as Senator from Louisiana. It was a question of high privilege, and had remained on the Senate calendar ready. He moved that the resolution be taken up for consideration. Agreed to.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a message from the President in answer to a Senate resolution of January 31, for report from the Director of the Mint in regard to the Capital University, at Columbus, Ohio, which building it is proposed to donate to the Government for mint purposes. Ordered printed with the accompanying papers, and to lie upon the table.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, inclosing the report of the Chief of Engineers in regard to obstructions of the Upper Mississippi river at Fort Madison and Burlington, Iowa, and recommending the appropriation of $60,000 to remove said obstructions. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. EATON gave notice that on Tuesday next he would submit a series of resolutions in regard to the life and character of the late Senator Ferry, of Connecticut.

Mr. SAULSBURY submitted a resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to pay Francis W. Sykes, late contestant for a seat from the State of Alabama, mileage and pay of Senator from March 4, 1873, to May, 1874. Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Attorney General, in reply to a recent resolution of the Senate, in regard to the suits against the Union Pacific Railroad. Ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Also, a memorial of the Iowa Legislature, asking an appropriation to complete a highway by a system of improvements between the Lake Michigan, by way of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The Senate went into executive session, and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. CLYMER offered a resolution directing the Secretary of War to report to the House the entire cost for the last fiscal year of the signal service. Adopted.

Mr. WHEELER offered a resolution directing the Committee on Appropriations to insert an item appropriating $5,000 for the widow of the late H. A Starkweather. Adopted.

Mr. GLOVER offered a resolution reciting the belief that certain political and personal influence has been used to secure the removal of a Federal Judge and the appointment of another in Colorado Territory, for the corrupt purpose of procuring certain orders and decrees concerning certain mining interests now in litigation, and directing the Attorney General to furnish copies of letters and papers asking for the removal of said Judge Belford, and for the appointment of Judge Stone in his stead. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A bill reported by Mr. WILLIAMS, of Indiana, Chairman of the Committee on Accounts, for the payment of the claims of disabled Union soldiers on the rolls of the House, led to considerable discussion as to whether there were so many Union soldiers now on the rolls. Mr. FORT undertaking to deny that there were, and Messrs. HOWARD and WILLIAMS, of Indiana, maintaining the contrary. Finally the bill passed.

Mr. ATKINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a resolution requesting the President to appoint a competent and experienced military officer to execute the duties of Indian agent so far as to repair to the Red Cloud Agency and to other Sioux agencies, to inquire into the cause of the deficiency in the appropriation for the Sioux Indians. Adopted.

The bill regulating the practice in United States Circuit and District Courts, which was before the House in the morning hour yesterday, was taken up and passed.

Mr. CAULFIELD, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill providing for the expenses, not exceeding ten dollars a day, of district judges when holding court outside their own districts. After discussion the bill was recommitted.

Mr. HUNTON, from the same committee, reported back adversely the bill to provide that the heads of executive departments may occupy seats on the floor of the House. Laid on the table. He also reported a bill for the relief of the owners and purchasers of lands sold for direct taxes in the insurrectionary States. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. LORD, from the same committee, reported a bill authorizing United States circuit courts to appoint commissioners, to be called Affidavit Commissioners, to take affidavits, depositions and verifications of pleadings, to be read in United States courts, but who are not to possess other powers conferred by statute on circuit court commissioners. After discussion the bill passed.

Mr. LAWRENCE, from the same committee, reported back the bill authorizing actions in the District of Columbia for damages in cases of death resulting from wrongful acts, neglect or default. During the discussion of the bill the morning hour expired, and the bill went over till to-morrow.

Mr. KASSON introduced a bill to encourage the conduct of commerce in vessels owned by citizens of the United States. Referred. The bill provides that till the 1st of July, 1879, any steamships of not less than two thousand tons burden that was built during or after 1870, and of which at least four-fifths is owned *bona fide* by citizens of the United States, and built in a foreign country may be registered as a vessel of the United States, and entitled to all the privileges of an American vessel.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Hoskins in the chair, on the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill, which appropriates $922 87.

Mr. SINGLETON, who had charge of the bill as a member of the Committee on Appropriations, addressed the principles of economy on which the bill was framed, and argued that the general depression of business throughout the country rendered this economy an imperative duty. He said that official salaries had grown out of proportion to what they had been in the better days of the Republic. When Edmund Randolph was Minister to England, General Cass to France and Daniel Webster Secretary of State they paid these men was quite satisfactory and that was $4,000 a year, and beautiful it was. He had never heard of the ministers of those days writing essays on poker or dealing out bad whisky to Indians in order to secure their means. [Laughter.] They were gentlemen of the highest order of respectability. *Sans peur et sans reproche.*

Mr. GARFIELD suggested that in these days ministers not only received an outfit, but an infit to cover the expenses of their return home.

Mr. KASSON suggested that diplomatic salaries had been increased in 1855 by a Democratic Congress.

Mr. SINGLETON went on to point out items in which reductions were made in the bill, and gave the aggregate reduction, as compared with the Diplomatic appropriation bill last year, at about $40,000. He pointed to the fact that the ordinary expenses of the Government for the last year, outside of those expended in pursuance of the act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, out of any fund in the United States Treasury subject to requisition of said Commissioners.

Mr. CLAY moved to lay that bill aside informally and proceed with the consideration of the bill in regard to certain soldiers and sailors of the late war of 1812, and widows of deceased officers, and to restore to the pension rotis those persons whose names have been stricken therefrom in consequence of disloyalty. Placed on the calendar.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the bill to pay interest on the 3-65 District of Columbia bonds, the pending question being on the amendment of Mr. KELLOGG to appropriate $65 bonds under or by virtue of said act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, is hereby prohibited. Agreed to.

Mr. SARGENT submitted an amendment as follows: "And there shall be no increase in the present amount of the total indebtedness of the District of Columbia." Agreed to.

Mr. HAMILTON, of Texas, submitted an amendment: Appropriating, further, that the paving and grading of streets and alleys be discontinued until authorized by law."

The CHAIR was informed that Messrs. Hamilton, Morrill, of Maine, Sargent, Saulsbury and Hager.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Hamilton to discontinue the paving and grading of streets, &c., Mr. KELLOGG said it was too sweeping, and should not be adopted.

Mr. DORSEY said that such effect would be to stop all repairs here, and certainly the Senate did not want to say that money collected from taxes could not be expended in improving or repairing the streets.

The amendment was rejected, yeas 31, nays 34, Messrs. Hamilton, Coke, Lamar, Morgan and Ogleshy voting with the Democrats in the affirmative.

Mr. EDMUNDS submitted an amendment that any officer or person who shall knowingly increase, add or affect the amount of the public indebtedness shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor. Agreed to.

The joint resolution was then reported to the Senate, and the question being first on the amendment proposed by the Committee on Appropriations, to strike out the resolution as follows: "And provided, That no appropriation of the 3-65 bonds is hereby prohibited; and provided further, that nothing in this resolution contained shall conflict in the payment of the United States in any obligation to pay the principal and interest of the 3-65 bonds which have been issued contrary to or not in pursuance of law, it was concurred in.

Mr. STEVENSON submitted an amendment providing that the Board of Audit created by the act of Congress for the investigation of indebtedness of Columbia, approved June 20, 1874, is hereby abolished, and shall immediately go into liquidation; provided this resolution transmit all books and property in possession belonging to the District to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and make a report of their proceedings not heretofore made.

Mr. EATON submitted an amendment as follows: "And provided further, That no part of the sum hereby appropriated shall be paid to any person who has not been so converted, and certificates hereafter to be issued by the Board of Audit of their acceptance of the offer shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of $100,000."

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Mr. DORSEY said

# The Commercial.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1876.

THE *Post* virtually confesses that the Democratic party is without a head. We had long suspected as much.

PRESIDENTIAL nominations are being reeled off in the newspapers by the score. Better make haste slowly. The clock strikes when the hour has come.

GOVERNMENTAL crooked whisky ringsters ought not to be allowed to plead service in the Union army, in mitigation of the penalty of their crimes. It is almost as though JUDAS should have pleaded his association with the Twelve.

THE Oregon railroads are about to be transferred to the German bondholders. The Portland *Oregonian* has information that the terms of the transfer have been agreed upon. It is supposed the roads are to be turned over to the Central Pacific Company.

THE Memphis (Tenn) *Appeal* cannot see how any Southern Democrat can find fault with BEN HILL'S frothy and foamy "lost cause" speech. Neither can we—considering that so few Northern Democrats have either reprobated or deprecated his hard-mouthed rebel insolence.

A BILL has been introduced into the New York Legislature, by the provisions of which trustees of savings banks are made liable to the full extent of their real and personal property for any maladministration of the affairs of the bank by its officers. It is a good measure, and other States might profitably take a hint from it.

THE general report from nearly all sections of the country is to the effect that almost everywhere there is a thorough and telling revival of Republicanism. The developments of the present Congressional session have checked whatever tendencies toward party disintegration were in existence, have produced harmony among Republicans, and have restored the fealty of many who had lately pursued a disaffected course.

WE HOPE the House proposition, which provides, in effect, that the HAYDEN exploring force shall be utilized to advantage in developing the characteristics of that unexplored country lying in the path of our progressing settlements, will be adopted, since the subsequent expensive surveys preparatory to opening the country to emigrants under the homestead preemption laws could then be confined to that country which is cultivatable and valuable.

ONE encouraging feature of the Cincinnati savings banks statements for the past year, now being furnished, is the fact that in a majority of instances in these institutions the deposits, during the period named, exceeded the withdrawals. This has doubtless arisen in part from the inactivity of many departments of business, but still more largely from the continued thrift and frugality of that class of the community who have formed the good habit of keeping a saving's bank account.

A CERTAIN wealthy New Yorker, who has a crotchet in his brain, contemplates the establishment in that city of "a school of statesmanship," his idea being that an institution of such character, embracing a Senate, Assembly, executive and other departments of government, is a necessity and would be a success. The ostensible design is to teach young men how to take part in public affairs, so that they can enter public life "prepared." The real intent, however, is, probably, to satirize Congress.

THE reviving spirit of trust and confidence which is gradually spreading through the various ramifications of trade, is itself beginning to result in an increased business activity of an encouraging character. A long season of forced economy had produced contraction of expenses on the one hand, and making and saving a dollar where it is possible, on the other; and a general liquidation of indebtedness has been the result. Many of those who could pay in full have done so, while most of those who either could not, or would not, and who had hitherto maintained delusive credits, have—if the mercantile agencies are to be believed—pretty much all been closed out. The rubbish, therefore, is being rapidly cleared away; while the country at large, finding itself again in a comparatively healthy condition, also finds stocks of all kinds of goods supplying our daily necessities nearly exhausted. For these reasons, and conditions, there will be a year of large buying; and that means solid, profitable activity in most departments of trade.

IT IS a generally established principle that as civilization advances, cruelty toward the inferior orders of creation diminishes. Hence we are glad to observe that measures for the better regulation of live stock transportation by the railroads of the country are to be enacted by Congress. Cattle are often carried from Chicago to New York without food or water, or else are given a little food at Philadelphia or Albany, but no water, and when landed are allowed to drink all they want, thus increasing their weight some fifty or sixty pounds. The butcher buys these cattle standing, and the consumer has to pay his money for this watered stock. It is time that such reprehensible practices were abolished, not only on account of the cruelty inflicted upon the poor dumb brutes, but because of the fraud upon the consumer. An economic view of the subject is perhaps a low view, but nevertheless it is one which appeals to every one. The cattle receive bruises and ulcers form upon their flesh, and in a number of proved cases the butchers have cut these ulcers out and sold the meat to the public, propagating disease through all classes of society. The Agricultural Committee are hearing practical shippers on the subject, and will amend the existing law to meet the needs of the case.

SPEAKING of the petitions in circulation throughout the country for the repeal or amendment of the bankrupt laws, and of the long list of dishonest men who have taken advantage of the confusion incident to the unusual number of commercial breakdowns, to swindle their creditors and pocket a liberal percentage of their own debts, the Boston *Advertiser* says:

"There is room for more than a suspicion that the expenses of a legal bankruptcy process have made creditors too willing to accept less than a fair percentage of the debts due them by suspended concerns, and this unusually favorable disposition on the part of creditors has in turn led many who might have continued to meet their obligations, to take advantage of the times and scale down their debts. It is becoming common for houses that have enjoyed fair credit, and that, for all anybody has been able to ascertain, are still solvent, to permit their papers to go to protest, and call a meeting of their creditors. So far as such bankruptcies are merely schemes to evade the payment of just obligations, which might be met if there were a proper disposition on the part of the debtor firms, they are an evidence of sad demoralization in the business community, and a sign of the times that should excite the most serious alarm on the part of those who believe that commercial integrity is quite as important a necessity of the time as financial soundness."

The Chicago *Tribune*, in commenting on the above, says there are men moving in high social circles in that city who, in their conduct, in settling with their creditors, has been such as to make any hypothesis of their honesty preposterous. These facts of themselves prove that merchants can do much, without a repeal or amendment of the law, to arrest this moral panic. If they would cease to extend social recognition to men who thus defraud and demoralize the community, and would refuse further credit to these cheating bankrupts, the evil would be more than half cured. As long as men may cheat and get credit again, and preserve their place in society, two powerful checks to such dishonesty are removed.

A NOVEL and critical condition of things exists in the State capital of Illinois. The new Constitution of that State forbids the incurring of indebtedness by cities and counties beyond a certain limit. For years past, it appears, there has been great dissatisfaction on the part of the taxpayers of Springfield with the manner in which the official affairs of the city were managed. The current expenditures were so lavish that it was yearly found necessary to borrow money in anticipation of receipts from taxes, and a debt was bequeathed to each succeeding municipal administration. The people were overburdened with taxation, and affairs drifted along in that way until, about a year ago, an injunction was obtained from the courts restraining the city authorities from levying a tax in excess of the income of the previous year; from issuing warrants or scrip when there was no money in the treasury to pay the same; and from creating any further debt, the constitutional limit and the restrictions of the charter being already reached. This change from excessive to limited expenditures worked hard at first, but, before the year was over, the enforced economy obtained popularity. At the last election, however, the citizens' ticket was defeated. There being now no money in the treasury, nor any prospect of any in the near future, on account of the indisposition of the people to pay the tax collector, the Mayor has executed a *coup d'etat* which leaves the city without any government at all. He has discharged the policemen, firemen and the prison-keeper, expecting thereby to force the taxes from the unwilling citizens. The Chicago *Journal* says:

"The Mayor seems to blame the Circuit Court of Sangamon county for issuing, as it did last spring, an injunction restraining the officers of the city from drawing warrants when there was no money to meet them, or from creating any debt. Is is held that to allow the pay of policemen and others to become due when there is no means of paying, is to create a debt, and thus to subject the city officers to the pain and penalties of contempt of court. The funds of the City Treasurer are exhausted, and no taxes are being paid. The court had no option. The Constitution is explicit in its prohibitions. If the Constitution had been strictly enforced in Chicago, the wheels of government in this city would have been blocked long ago. Millions of illegal 'scrip' indebtedness against Chicago is now afloat. Springfield's fate may be ours. The mere possibility of such a calamity is appalling. The policy of forbidding further municipal indebtedness is on trial. In theory it is good. Whether it is practicable or not is a question. Certain it is that either that restriction must be removed, or our General Assembly must adopt a revenue system under which the taxes can be lawfully and fully collected. The present state of affairs is not to be endured."

## The Ohio River—The Public vs. Coal Men

*To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:*

As a general rule, a man makes a mistake by being in a hurry. In nine cases out of ten "the puts his foot in it," as your correspondent "D," in Monday's issue, most unquestionably does, in his "few hurried suggestions."

It is a curious fact that, when one has a weak case, and especially when he is in a hurry, he falls into the error of thinking that calling names stands for argument; and if, after a few feeble and crude sentences, he can wind up by saying that his adversary is "theoretical" and "visionary" and "disposed to fill your columns with fiction" (which is certainly a very polite way of putting a usually forcible expression), and sign D to the end of his communication, he feels that the "coal men," and possibly coke men, are perfectly safe, if only Congressmen can be persuaded that his version is verity, and the other side fiction.

Now, the subscriber is not interested personally in the Ohio river question, because he lives in the woods; but he doesn't like to see D., or any other coal man, trying to ride rough-shod over whole communities, and attempting to subserve a single interest by either willful misstatements or unpardonable ignorance.

It is scarcely worth the while to dwell longer on this point. If any one thing has been clearly demonstrated the world over, it is, that water carriage is infinitely cheaper than land carriage of any description, and beyond peradventure that 2,000 tons would have gone up the obstructed river.

With the powerful boats of large capacity that would ply up the improved Ohio, the cost of transportation would be extremely small, and the aggregate tonnage be so immense as to make the tolls almost nominal.

Other points of interest present themselves, but too great a draft has already been made upon your courtesy.

COUNTRYMAN.

## New Cure for Palpitation.

A cure for the arrest of palpitation of the heart has just been given to the world by a medical correspondent, an account of which we take from the *Medical Times* of London. As a great many persons are subject to this disease, it would be well to make a note of what the correspondent advices. "Palpitation when not depending upon organic diseases, may be almost immediately arrested by bending the head downwards and allowing the arms to hang pendent." The correspondent further adds that "the effect is even still more rapidly produced by holding the breath a few seconds, while the body is in that bent position." The above has been tried by a medical friend of ours, who is subject to the disease, and he says the effects are wonderful. As soon as he placed himself in the position described the palpitation was immediately stopped.

The monument to Rev. John Witherspoon, the Presbyterian minister who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was completed at Philadelphia last Tuesday. Workmen have been engaged upon it for seven months past. It is cast in bronze, is twelve feet high, and the pose of the figure is graceful and represents him as reading his speech before the Continental Congress. It will be placed in the park, near the Memorial Hall, in May next, when the Presbyterian General Assembly meets.

Wanted: A Democratic candidate for President. One who can stand a good whipping about next November preferred.

## GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Let thy chief terror be of thine own soul;
There, 'mid the throng of hurrying desires
That trample o'er the dead to seize their spoil,
Lurk passions, footless, irresistible
As exhalations laden with slow death,
And o'er the fairest troop of captured joys
Breathe pallid pestilence.

The Democratic party has banked its ball clean over the string, and lost.

Mr. Odd died in Wisconsin a few days ago. It is too grave a subject for a joke.

Harriet Hosmer, the sculptress, is forty-four and unmarried. She never chiseled a husband.

A Syracuse, New York, lady, aged upward of seventy, is en-jaw-ing cutting her third set of teeth.

Heraldic evolution. Darwin has recently added to his coat of arms the design of a chimpanzee rampant.

These are especially the times when capital and labor should seek to help each other, and not stand apart.

A certain morning newspaper of New York city advertises the fact that it "is published daily and Sundays."

A striking Iowa genius has invented a bell piano, which thrills the soul with music produced by bells of all sorts and sizes.

A huge mass of rock, weighing over five hundred tons, fell from the bank of the Bridal Veil fall at Niagara a few days ago.

The Democratic party is not fit to be trusted with the management of a two-acre lot, much less with the affairs of a great nation.

Let's be proud. There are in the world 145,825 miles of railroad, of which English speaking nations have 85,660 miles, over one-half.

The latest reported ring is a wine ring, whose business it is to defraud the Government of revenue by undervaluing imported European wines.

Senator Jones, of Nevada, proposes that while we are waiting to resume on a gold basis, we should resume on a silver one. He is an argentiferous bullionist.

This year is also the dramatic centennial. In 1576, three hundred years ago, the first theater for those who speak and read English language was built in London.

Profit and loss. Besides a population of 381,156, Kansas has 74,900 dogs, and they killed last year 5,233 sheep, or about five per cent. of the number in the State.

They are bent on the destruction of the New York city Democracy. It is promised that the gambling houses and vile dens of all sorts, there, shall be broken up.

The Democratic majority in Congress are going to fight it out on the line against the army washerwomen, if it takes all summer. It is proposed to abolish them.

Coaching is the latest form of fashionable dissipation. It began in England, and has already extended to this country. The vehicles are driven by fools, on the road to ruin.

After proper incubation, a new industry, he drying of eggs, has been hatched in Germany, and the military authorities are about to give the product a trial for soldiers' rations.

A New York inventor has modeled a flying machine on the mechanism of a hawk's wing, and will soon make his experimental cloud-trip. He will be "hawked at and killed."

Conquering and to conquer. During the past four years, 5,468,227,000 letters passed through the postoffices of the world. 1,761,875,000 were in countries ruled by the English language.

There are 51,590,000 square miles of dry land on the surface of the earth; of which 12,125,948 square miles, or one-fourth, is under the dominion of nations using the English language.

It has lately been discovered that Bald Mountain, in East Tennessee, is rich with silver. A few boxes of the ore were recently sent to Philadelphia to be tested, and a favorable report is given.

A very ancient, mysterious subterranean apartment, arched with stones, has been discovered near Dedham, Massachusetts. Now, Bill Allen, once more rise up and tell us something about the pliocene age.

Every one of the New York savings banks in the hands of receivers was made bankrupt by the misdeeds of some official, or the recklessness of the trustees in the affairs of the institutions. There is a moral, here.

The Iowa Legislature is considering a bill requiring attorneys in criminal cases to pay the fees of immaterial witnesses, and debarring the counsel calling such witnesses from further practice in the courts of that State!

Another hardship. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue prohibits by circular he further issue of licenses to Southern peripatetic liquor dealers. Hence, people must purchase their goods in the usual way or stop drinking.

There was a good blubber crop last year. The average catch of whaling vessels engaged in the Arctic sea amounted to 1,384 barrels of whale and walrus oil, and 14,900 pounds of whale bone, the largest average for any season since 1850.

The water has soaked through the levee in the Runyon tule districts in Sacramento county, California, to such an extent that most of the land cannot be cultivated this year. A similar misfortune has befallen the "Staten Island" reclamation district.

Are grasshoppers a curse? The wheat crop of Kansas, last year, amounted to 13,209,408 bushels; corn, 80,798,769 bushels, an increase of about forty-five per cent. in the wheat crop and over four hundred per cent. in the corn crop over that of 1874.

## PERSONAL.

It is understood that the counsel for the Government in Babcock's case will allow an affidavit made by the President to be presented in his behalf. This will save General Grant from cross-examination.

The world moves, and kings move with it. Twenty-five years ago the Emperor of Austria was straining every effort to get a fair excuse for cutting off the head of Francis Deak; the other day the Emperor wrote a letter of high-strung eulogy, lamenting the death of the great patriot as a national calamity.

More depraved precocity. A ten-year-old girl in Providence, R. I., engaged a private theater box four succeeding evenings last week for herself and her cronies, hired hacks at the rate of $20 a day, and dressed flashily, squandering $2,700 in "a few months," and concealing her rapid habits of expenditure from her imprudent mother that she was "investing" the money.

That Boston association of criminals seems to be a pretty finely organized affair. It has a regular form of admitting members, and the prison each has graduated from, his offense, and information in regard to the prison, are all duly recorded. The society discusses the most approved plans for burglary, tools, equipments, etc., and keeps a regular register of the best criminal lawyers in the country, and of the judges of the courts, and the members know at once what the prospects are for a brother criminal. If his case comes before what they call "a hard judge," they raise the money to secure a postponement of the case. They have also a fund for mutual support and protection, and through this source they are often able to send delicacies to their brethren when sick in the prison hospital.

There was a queer scene at the door of the National House of Representatives a few days since. One of the assistant Doorkeeper is a Confederate from Cork, and a good Democrat. Pat was there when Mr. Luckey, the President's private secretary, arrived with a message. Pat was in trouble with a couple of individuals, and Mr. Luckey awaited until the matter was arranged. He then introduced himself, and said he had a message from the President of the United States. "Have ye's?" says Pat; "let me see it." Mr. Luckey handed him the formidable looking envelope, fastened by a tape and sealing wax. Pat looked at it; he could read, and said. "This is for the Spaker, sure?" Mr. Luckey nodded assent. "Well," said Pat, "go round in the lobby and the Spaker will come out some time, when you can give it to him." "But that is not the usual way," said Mr. Luckey. "Divil a bit do I care," said Pat, "dodge round there in the lobby and wait." "You had better call the Doorkeeper," responed Mr. Luckey. "Niver a bit of it. I can't be after callin' the Doorkeeper for the likes of ye," answered Pat; and Mr. Luckey, despairing, sought some other medium through which to communicate with the "Spaker."

MR. DONALD G. MITCHELL had an amusing encounter with a snobbish Yale student recently. A correspondent of the Springfield *Republican* gives it as follows: "A Yale student, riding out to call lately on the charming bevy of daughters that cheer the heart and home of the farmer at Edgewood, found a man dressed in rough clothes at work near the entrance of the place. 'Here, old fellow, hold my horse,' cried Yalensian, 'and see the ladies at home!' said he, as the person addressed took hold of the animal, as the rider dismounted. 'No, sir; you will not find them at home,' said the supposed gardener. 'Well, then, here's a dime for you,' said Yalensian, remounting. The money was declined, and the student rode away utterly ignorant of the reason why he did not find the ladies in which he afterward suspected, when he learned that his conversation had been with the author-farmer himself."

## CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

### The Improvement of the Ohio River—Statements Made Before the House Committee on Commerce—Action to be Taken in Connection with the River and Harbor Bill—A Review of Major Merrill's Work—Estimates for 1876-7.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 2, 1876.

The House Committee on Commerce within the past week have given a very thorough hearing to the different parties representing rival views on the subject of the navigation of the Ohio river and its improvement. Statements have been made by Major William E. Merrill, Corps of Engineers, in charge of improvements on the Ohio river, and a delegation from the Pittsburgh Coal Exchange and the Steamboatmen's Association. The committee heard what these gentlemen had to say, but have had no conversation on the subject among themselves. They will take this matter into consideration in connection with the River and Harbor bill.

Major Merrill, in his statement before the committee, reviewed the work of the past year, explaining the work on the dikes at French Island, Evansville and Henderson Island, the Henderson Island dam, and the removal of Bacon Rock.

In speaking of the French Island dike, 760 miles below Pittsburgh, he alluded to its completion and the advantages gained. In speaking of the same work in his report to the Chief of Engineers, Major Merrill says: The first effect of this dike was excellent; rivermen were delighted with it, and I thought that a radical improvement had been made. Unfortunately I discovered, after my report had gone in, that although good water was made and maintained where the bar was when I commenced work, yet the sands had reformed a bar just below the end of the dike, so that very little practical advantage had resulted from the work. Accordingly, with the approval of the Chief of Engineers, I have made a new contract for an addition of 1,000 feet to the length of the dike. I hope that this extension will drive the sands into deeper water, and cause them so to distribute themselves along the sides of the channel as to leave good navigable water in the middle. I consider this experiment a very valuable one in determining the utility of attempting the radical improvement of the Lower Ohio, by using dikes to guide and control the currents. If the result is to be a mere shifting of a bar from one place to another, a serviceable improvement will require a continuous line of submersible dikes throughout the whole length of the river, and this would be both costly and annoying to navigation. Before this report reaches Congress I expect to have the extension completed, but two or three seasons' experience will be needed to determine the full value of the experiment.

In regard to the gain in the depth in the Ohio river, under the plans adopted, Major Merrill says that the nature of the bottom varies so much in different parts of the river, and the amount of traveling sand is so various, that the available depth on all bars, improved or unimproved, is always uncertain. The effect of the contraction also varies at different stages of water. Thus, at the Trap, near Pittsburgh, the depth in dead low water, when the total amount of water passing is very small, is greatly not increased more than two or three inches. At a higher stage the dike prevents the water from spreading, and thus secures a greater navigable depth than if it were not there. Some places, like Glass House, at Allegheny city, have been radically improved, but the radical improvement consists in having such a depth that boats can always pass when they can pass the Trap. Formerly the Glass House bar was the worst of the two.

At Beaver, Wheeling and Parkersburg there has been an appreciable gain for ordinary stages, but in dead low water the gain almost disappears, because at such stages the flowing water volume is so small that it will naturally contract into a channel of about the same width as that caused by the dike, and therefore at such stages the dike can have but little effect. As a result, I think that the effect of dikes and dams is more in preventing water from spreading during stages of from two to six feet above low water than in any danger you may have in dead low water. The worst places of course control navigation, and I should say that between Pittsburgh and Wheeling we cannot depend, after improvement, upon more than eighteen inches in ordinary low water; between Wheeling and Huntington, on more than two feet; between Huntington and Portsmouth, on more than two and a half feet; between Portsmouth and Louisville, on more than three feet; and below Louisville, on more than three and a half feet. These soundings were very roughly made from Portsmouth down, but especially below the falls. Whether we can permanently control them by open-river improvement, can be told only by time, but we shall soon see the results of extending the dike at French Island.

The work on the Evansville dike, 783 miles below Pittsburgh, was prosecuted slowly, so as to give the river time to gradually work out its new channel along the river front at Evansville. The reports, he stated, were favorable.

The Henderson dike, 797 miles below Pittsburgh, was delayed to give time for rapidly building the dam.

The Henderson dam, 797 miles below Pittsburgh, was built across the chute, and as near the head of the island as practicable. The bank was carefully protected by piles, and an embankment of stone, from 20 feet above the dam to 200 feet below it before work on the dam was begun. The dam is thirty feet in width, with three rows of piles six feet apart, the space between the upper rows being fifteen feet, and between the middle and lower rows twenty-five feet. The spaces between the rows are filled with loose stone, and the total length of the dam is 620 feet. There were used in its construction 3,872 cubic yards of stone, 6,000 feet of brush, and 414 piles. A recent inspection shows that some repairs will be needed during the present season.

The Bacon Rock, 967 miles below Pittsburgh, has been entirely removed. The dredge employed was of the clam-shell type, and no difficulty was found in lifting the rock, which consisted of sand and gravel formed the inside of the rock. The cementing substance was mainly iron. The gravel was identical with that used in Paducah for road-metal, for which it is found to be valuable. The *debris* of this lately formidable obstruction were placed on the Cairo levee.

After the river had fallen sufficiently to bring to view the top of the Cumberland dam, it was found that a large portion of the old part of the dam, which was supposed to be strong and therefore left untouched, had sunk below grade, and that a gap had been opened at the junction between the new and old work. By authority of the Chief of Engineers, a contract for the repair of these injuries was let. 7,185 cubic yards of stone were used, but the present state is unknown, as it has been out of sight since the repairs were completed.

In explaining the estimates for 1876-7 Major Merrill says:

The question of the proper method of improving the Upper Ohio, at least between Pittsburgh and Wheeling, was submitted to a Board of Engineers which met at Pittsburgh on the 14th of April, 1875, and reported in favor of the plan which was recommended in my last annual report.

In accordance with the terms of the act of March 9, 1875, the report of the Board was submitted to the Secretary of War, was approved by him, and I was ordered to prepare for active operations. Before commencing, it was necessary to purchase sufficient land for the lock and its approaches, for the abutments of the dam, and for the two abutments of the permanent dam behind Davis' Island. The laws of the United States require that before the commencement of any improvement work, the State in which it is located shall cede to the United States its jurisdiction over the land so purchased. Knowing this, and anticipating the improvement of the Ohio by locks and dams, in 1873 I drew up the project of a bill for cession of jurisdiction by the State of Pennsylvania over all land that might be needed in Pennsylvania for the improvemnnt of the Ohio river by locks and dams, and forwarded it to General Moorhead, of Pittsburgh, the Chairman of the Ohio River Commissioners. General Moorhead revised and modified the proposed bill, and then caused it to be introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature at the session of 1873-4. The bill passed both Houses, but was vetoed by the Governor. During the session of 1874-5, a new bill was introduced, drawn up on a variant of the Governor's objections, and this bill passed the Lower House, and was sent to the Senate. Unfortunately the bill was mislaid, and could not be found when called up for order. The Legislature adjourned without acting on it, but the bill came up again at the next session as unfinished business. The non-passage of the bill has caused the enormous prices set on their property by the riparian owners, caused you to order me to postpone all operations on the dam until this bill was passed, and contained a clause giving the same right of condemnation usually granted to railroads, and when it does pass we will be able to get the necessary land at a fair price. This state of affairs is very annoying, but I feel that I did all that I could to guard against it, and that it did not occur through any neglect or carelessness on my part.

In my last year's estimate I recommended the simultaneous construction of thirteen locks between Pittsburgh and Wheeling, rather than to commence on a smaller number of complete movable dams with locks. My reason for this recommendation was that all the locks could be under way at the same time without interfering with each other, or with navigation. After these were built all the dams could be undertaken simultaneously, and as it would take no longer to build thirteen independent dams than one, the navigation of the river would only be obstructed for two years, while a different policy would obstruct it during every year until the whole work was completed. I therefore can do no better than to repeat my former estimate, which is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Thirteen locks at $200,000 | $2,600,000 00 |
| Engineering and contingencies of locks—5 per cent | 130,000 00 |
| Nine months' services of dredges | 27,000 00 |
| Nine months' services of snagboat | 27,000 00 |
| Improvement of Lower Ohio | 180,000 00 |
| Office expenses, inspection, stationery, quarters and traveling | 22,000 00 |
| Contingencies | 14,000 00 |
| Total | $3,000,000 00 |

The estimates on the thirteen locks are only approximate, because last year's operations did not suffice to determine absolutely the location for all the locks, and since then the stage in the river has been higher than it should be for first-class work Between now and December the necessary re-examinations will be made, and reasonably accurate estimates may be prepared. The average cost of a lock will be greater than $200,000, as many of them must be built on gravel, but as I cannot yet make exact estimates I prefer to let the first approximate estimate remain.

In my report on the radical improvement of the Ohio, I estimated the cost of a lock as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| On rock foundation | $179,610 00 |
| On gravel foundation | 285,168 00 |
| Average | $232,389 00 |

The bars that need improvement on the Ohio below the falls are the same that were mentioned last year—namely, Portland, Flint Island, Puppy creek, Scuffletown, Three-mile Island, Shawneetown, Treadwater, foot of Cumberland Island, and the Grand Chain. At the latter place the Jackson rock should be removed, even if nothing else is done. The estimate of $180,000 is not sufficient to do all this work, but no reliable estimates can be made, and the places where work should be done must be determined by the condition of the river during the preceding low water.

As this estimate is made in July, 1875, for work which is not to be commenced before July, 1876, and as it is made while the river is high, and in advance of the work of the present season, it is necessarily vague. As an illustration of the difficulty of predicting work so far ahead, I will only state that during this year I will be unable to work at any of the bars mentioned above, but instead I have been obliged to let a contract for additional work at French Island, a bar that I considered as radically improved when my last annual report was written.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury of United States, July 1, 1874 | $ 175,000 00 |
| Amount in hands of officer and subject to his checks (including $4,525 15 percentage due on contracts not yet completed) July 1, 1874 | 24,389 49 |
| Amount appropriated by act approved March 3, 1875 | 300,000 00 |
| Amount expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875 | 224,778 09 |
| Amount available July 1, 1875, including $5,120 20 due on account acts | 274,611 40 |
| Amount required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877 | 3,000,000 00 |

D&B. R. K.

## STATE NEWS.

They are trying in Philadelphia to raise a party of one thousand men to go to the Black Hills.

There stands on Jacobs' creek, Fayette county, the crumbling remains of a furnace stack built in 1792, by a Frenchman named Turnbull.

Bryce Try, aged eighteen, of Richhill township, Greene county, is charged with attempting to commit rape on the person of a farmer's daughter.

Major Elwood Grieset, long the editor of the Lancaster *Inquirer*, has purchased the establishment and will henceforth conduct it as editor and proprietor.

Since Lehigh county young women have taken to swallowing roosters' hearts as a charm to make men marry them, poultry men fear a chicken famine.

Sylvester Morris was caught by the shafting in Hopkins' mill, in Morris township, Greene county, on the 25th ult., and instantly killed. He was thirty-three years old and a widower, leaving three small children.

The effects of the Moody and Sankey meetings in Philadelphia are manifested in the revivals which are kept up in a number of the churches in that city. Special services, partaking of the character of the meetings held by the evangelists, are in progress, and are largely attended, much good resulting therefrom.

Michael J. Doyle, whose trial for the murder of J. P. Jones, a mine boss, at Landsford, Carbon county, some months ago, has occupied the attention of the court for two weeks past, was on Tuesday found guilty of murder in the first degree. Great excitement prevailed during the trial, as Doyle was a member of the "Molly Maguire" gang. A motion for a new trial has been made.

The Greensburg *Argus* says: Eighty-five sheep, belonging to farmers in Unity, Derry and Salem townships, were killed by dogs in one night recently. From the peculiar manner in which the brutes caused this wholesale slaughter, it is believed that but two dogs were concerned. From the indications it seems that one of these would catch the sheep by the nose, while the other lacerated the throat with its teeth. There is no clue to the canine depredators.

### Strengthening the Hold on Life.

Life is dear to most, if not all of us, and those whose tenure of it is rendered uncertain by feeble health, would gladly strengthen their hold upon existence. The best advice that can be given to the debilitated is to invigorate with that sovereign vitalizer, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which fortifizes the blood by ensuring complete nutrition, and is an excellent remedy for many forms of disease for the main causes of physical weakness. Indigestion, inactivity of the liver, urinary troubles, rheumatic complaints, and many forms of ailments and disabilities are specially conquered by this safe, prompt and agreeable vegetable tonic, which is, beside, a reliable preventative of chills and fever, and other malarial disorders, common to the country, both new and exposure, and is a beneficial solace to the aged and infirm.


E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Gives tone to the stomach, improves the appetite and assists digestion; acts as a specific remedy in healing and expelling all the foul humors that contaminate the blood, cures all Dyspeptic troubles, regulates the liver, it excites the liver to a healthy action and strengthens the nerves, imparting that glow to life that produces buoyancy of spirits, which makes it to all seeks or life testify to the virtues of this excellent medicine in curing the most obstinate cases of indigestive organs. Get the genuine. Sold only in $1 bottles. Ask for E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, and take no other.

Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia.

E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, a sure cure for this fell disease. Those who have suffered for many years in the practice of eminent physicians with agonizing pains of breath, want of appetite, wind and rising of food, dryness in mouth, headache, dizziness, sleeplessness and low spirits, Get the genuine. Not sold in bulk, only $1 bottles. Do you want strength, good appetite, good sleep, or a good appetite? Do you want to get rid of nervous fears? Do you want an effectual cure for all forms of dyspepsia, kidney or liver disease? Try E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON. Sold by all druggists recommended to do as recommended. Sold only in $1 bottles. Depot and office, 639 Smithfield street, Philadelphia. Get the genuine. Sold by all druggists. Ask for E. F. Kunkel's, and take no other.

Tape Worm

Removed alive with head complete, in from two to three hours. No fee till removed, by E. F. KUNKEL, M.D., 639 Smithfield street, Philadelphia. Send for pamphlet and Stomach Worms also removed. Call and see; advice free, or send for circular. Sold by your druggist for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price, $1 per bottle.

NWF

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

Assets January 1, 1873 : $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1852.

Open daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 7 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounded semi-annually. By-Laws and July Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents.
D. K. McKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, R. Adam, Jr., Wm. Thorne, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug.
John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HALE, KILBURN & CO.
Sole Manuf's of the Prize Medal
CHAMPION FOLDING BED

Warranted Best and Cheapest in the World. Illustrated Circulars Free—Mention this paper. 48 & 50 North 5th St., Philadelphia, Pa. Branch Store, 613 Broadway, New York.

THE
Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company,
OF PHILADELPHIA.
INCORPORATED 1847.
ASSETS - - - - $5,250,000
ENTIRELY MUTUAL.

The Penn Mutual is one of the oldest Life Companies in the country. It has made dividends annually to its members since the year 1849. Its liability to its members since the year 1849. Its liability to its members since the year 1849. Its liability

# FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, February 3, 1876.

Events in monetary circles are uninteresting. Money is plenty, not only in banks, but in hands of private lenders.

We hear of considerable inquiry for mortgages of from five to ten thousand dollars in amount at about nine per cent. interest.

The usury law of Pennsylvania is such that lenders are afraid to take a mortgage bearing nine per cent., so they discount the excessive interest over six per cent. from the face of the loan; that is, where a loan for four years is made at so called nine per cent. the borrower gets only $880 on each $1,000 of the loan, while the interest at six per cent. is calculated on the greater sum, and at maturity that sum has to be paid. In reality the rate of interest is over ten per cent., thanks to the wisdom of those who profess to be the friends of the debtor class, and who stand as a constant obstruction in the way of wise legislation that would decrease the rate of interest on all loans.

The right of making a contract is a right born with each individual and is a part of his existence, and no law is a righteous one that allows the individual to take advantage of his violation of the contract. A writer in the *Banker's Magazine* says: "If the two parties were left to adjust their own bargains, undisturbed, the usury would depend upon the circumstances of the loan, such as the amount of security and the chance of repayment."

The law, however, complicates this transaction and the borrower not only pays the natural risk, but also the risk incurred by the lender in violating the law. The lack of wisdom of the usury laws is revealed in the fact that they have increased what they were designed to destroy; they have compelled men by their imperative necessities to violate the laws, and to cap the climax *the penalty of such violation falls upon the borrower*—that is, upon him whom the State would fondly protect. If such legislation is friendship, a man may well pray to be delivered from his friends. Acts which are so violative of personal freedom and which so outrage common sense are seldom obeyed and they engender a disrespect for law that blunts the moral sense of men, which is of the most demoralizing nature.

—Superintendent Ellis, of the New York State Banking Department, has submitted his annual report of the condition of the banks of that State to the Assembly. There was an increase in the number of State banks during the fiscal year, and a decrease in the capital. The deposits in 1875 were equal in amount, while there was an increase of two millions in the loans. The outstanding circulation of the State banks has fallen to $849,226. The total resources of the banks at the close of the fiscal year, September 30, 1875, amounted to $107,071,018, of which $681,919 19 consisted of loans. The liabilities were the same, with a capital of $36,000,000, and deposits to the amount of $61,534,537. The trust companies exhibit a large increase of business, which is regarded as indicative of the depression of business. The following is a statement of their condition at the close of the fiscal year:

RESOURCES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Bonds and mortgages | $ 5,576,634 |
| Stock investments | 22,151,283 |
| Par value of the same | $22,311,525 |
| Estimated market value of the same | 22,378,042 |
| Amount loaned on collateral securities | 19,635,475 |
| Amount loaned on personal securities | 13,092,646 |
| Overdrafts | 3,240 |
| Due from directors or trustees | 2,703 |
| Due from banks | 443 |
| Real estate | 1,494,351 |
| Cash on deposit in banks or other moneyed institutions | 5,119,093 |
| Cash on hand | 138,707 |
| Other assets not included in either of the above heads | 2,140,229 |
| Add for cents | 35 |
| Total resources | $80,654,947 |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Capital paid in | $11,534,475 |
| Surplus and other profits | 5,744,083 |
| Deposits in trust | 29,442,552 |
| General deposits | 29,913,017 |
| Other liabilities not included in either of the above heads | 2,560,803 |
| Add for cents | 10 |
| Total liabilities | $79,654,948 |

Superintendent Ellis directs the attention of the State Legislature to an abuse connected with the private banking system, which cannot be too soon corrected. At present the managers of certain private banks assume titles and prefixes which lead the general public to believe that they are organized under the State laws, and subject to their guarantees. Of course, experienced financiers are not deceived by a device of this kind. Superintendent Ellis suggestively brands these institutions as "Privateers," and says the people may be protected against them. Many of them went down under the panic of 1873, but they are now starting up again in objectionable as ever.

The evils of irredeemable paper money are freely exposed by him. He alludes to a point not sufficiently noted hitherto, that the State banks which, in a former crisis were foremost in returning to specie payments, are now inactive on the subject. The fault lies in the Federal Government, which, by hundreds of millions of dollars in circulation which it is pledged to redeem in coin, fails to fulfill these promises hampers the banks, and prevents them from imitating their former policy. Mr. Ellis clearly demonstrates that the best interests of labor would be promoted by resumption. He has no sympathy with the alarmists, who predict universal bankruptcy as the result of a redeemable currency, but, on the contrary, he holds that it would stimulate trade, increase the demand for labor and enable business to flow in its natural channels. "Resumption," says Mr. Ellis, "means plenty of work and a genuine dollar in payment for such work."

OFFICE OF TRADE & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS. NO. 7 NEW STREET.
NEW YORK, February 2, 1876.

*To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:*

The stock market has been feverish and unsettled to-day.

The chief feature was the attack on Pacific Mail, one broker being credited with selling over 30,000 shares.

No cause is assigned for the excessive sales of this stock, but the impression prevails that they have been made at the instigation of Mr. Gould, who will probably take back the stock at a small reaction.

The lowest quotations were generally recorded during the first call, since which time the market has been fairly steady and in some instances a very decided rally has taken place. The recovery from the depression of this morning, was most marked in the St. Paul and Chicago and North western stocks which closed quite strong at their quotations. We hear it said that the object of the bears in the market this morning has been attained, and that the organizers of the movement were large buyers of stock this afternoon.

Under these circumstances we look for a further recovery in prices to-morrow. Money remains easy at 5 per cent. on call.

Yours truly,
TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

| February 3, 1876. | 10:30 A.M. | 11:30 A.M. | 12:30 P.M. | 1:30 P.M. | 2:30 P.M. | 3:00 P.M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gold | 113 | 113 | 113 | 113 | 113 | 113 |
| U. S. 6-20's, 1881, coup | 122½ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 5-20's, 1865 | 118 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 5-20's, 1865, new | 118 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 5-20's, 1867, registered | 121⅞ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 5-20's, 1867, coupon | 121⅞ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 5-20's, 1868 | 118⅞ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 10-40's | 116⅝ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 10-40's, coupons | 116⅝ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Currency 6's | 124½ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| 7-30's per cents | 105⅛ | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Western Union Tel | 77¾ | 77¾ | 77¾ | 77¾ | 77¾ | 77¾ |
| Quicksilver | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Pacific Mail | 37 | 36⅞ | 36 | 35⅝ | 35⅝ | 35⅝ |
| Panama | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Adams Express | .... | 106½ | .... | 106½ | .... | .... |
| Wells Fargo Express | .... | 98½ | .... | 98½ | .... | .... |
| American Express | .... | 58⅝ | .... | 58⅝ | .... | .... |
| United States Express | .... | 56 | .... | 56 | .... | .... |
| New York Central | 113⅛ | 112 | .... | 111⅞ | .... | 112 |
| Erie | 17 | 16⅞ | 17 | 16⅞ | .... | 17 |
| Michigan Central | 90½ | 90½ | .... | 90½ | .... | .... |
| Michigan Southern | 67 | 66⅝ | 66⅝ | 66⅝ | 66⅝ | 66⅝ |
| Illinois Central | .... | 91½ | 91½ | 91½ | .... | .... |
| Cleve., & Pittsburgh | .... | 94¼ | 94¼ | 94¼ | .... | .... |
| Chicago & Rock Island | .... | 94¼ | .... | 94¼ | .... | .... |
| Do preferred | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Pittsburgh | 108½ | 108½ | .... | 107⅞ | .... | 108 |
| Ft. Paul common | 41¾ | 41 | 41 | 41¼ | 41⅝ | 41⅝ |
| Do preferred | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Whash common | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Fort Wayne | .... | 103½ | .... | 103½ | .... | .... |
| Ohio & Mississippi | 25⅞ | 25⅞ | .... | 25⅞ | .... | 25⅞ |
| Union Pacific | .... | 36 | 35⅞ | 35⅞ | .... | 35⅞ |
| Hannibal & St. Joe | .... | .... | 21¾ | 21 | 20¾ | 20¾ |
| Do preferred | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Fort Mountain | .... | 15½ | .... | 15 | .... | 15 |
| C. C. & I. C. | 5¾ | 5¾ | .... | 5¾ | .... | 5¾ |
| Missouri Pacific | .... | .... | 13¾ | .... | .... | 13¾ |

[By Associated Press.]

**Gold Closed at 113.**

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 3.—Money closed at 4@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5@6½ per cent. Customs receipts $225,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $828,000. Clearings $25,000,000. Sterling dull at 483½@489.

GOLD.

Gold steady at 113. Carrying rates 2 to 4 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds firm. State securities quiet but strong. Stocks opened weak and lower, the decline ranging from ¼ to 1¾ per cent., the latter Pacific Mail. At second call prices were somewhat steadier, with a recovery of from ¼ to ⅝ per cent., the greatest advance being in Northwestern. During the last hour the market improved for some Western shares and was stronger in tone on the general list. St. Paul and Northwestern were the features in the late advance. Transactions 151,000 shares, of which 35,000 were Pacific Mail, 22,000 Western Union, 12,000 Northwestern, 12,000 St. Paul, 31,000 Lake Shore and 32,000 Ohio and Mississippi. The following were the closing quotations:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| W. U. Telegraph | 77¼ | Toledo & Wabash | 6 |
| Pacific Mail | 35¼ | Do preferred | .... |
| Adams Express | 97½ | Fort Wayne | 101 |
| Wells Fargo Ex | 98½ | Terre Haute | 6¼ |
| American Ex | 58½ | Do preferred | 23½ |
| U. S. Express | 57½ | Chicago & Alton | 104 |
| New York Central | 111½ | Do preferred | 119 |
| Erie | 16⅞ | Ohio & Mississippi | 25⅞ |
| Do preferred | 35 | Indiana Central | 9¼ |
| Harlem | 130 | Burling'n & Quincy | 119 |
| Do preferred | 134 | Hannibal & St. Jos. | 13⅞ |
| Mich. Central | 90 | Delaware & Lack | 118½ |
| Lake Shore | 66½ | Atlantic & P. Tel | 29¼ |
| Illinois Central | 91½ | Union Pac. stock | 36¼ |
| Clev. & Pitts | 94¼ | Cen. Pac. bonds | 104½ |
| North Western | 41¾ | Union Pac. bonds | 105⅝ |
| Do preferred | 62¾ | Do land grants | 101 |
| Rock Island | 94¼ | Mariposa | 9¼ |
| St. Paul | 41¾ | Do preferred | 24¼ |
| Do preferred | 76 | Panama | 130 |
| | | Missouri Pacific | 13¾ |

GOVERNMENTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| U. S. coupons, 1881 | 122¼ |
| 5-20's, 1865 | 118 |
| 5-20's, 1865, new | 118 |
| 5-20's, 1867 | 121¾ |
| 5-20's, 1868 | 122 |

STATE BONDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Tennessee, old | 46¼ |
| Tennessee, new | 42¾ |
| Virginia, new | .... |

LONDON, February 3, 5 P. M.—The bullion in the Bank of England increased £109,000 the past week. The proportion of reserve to liabilities is 42⅝ per cent. The amount of bullion gone into the bank on balance to-day was £11,000. Consols for money 94 3-16; for account 94 7-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 105⅝; do 1867, 109½; 10-40's, 105. new 5's 109⅝. Railroad securities—New York Central 102; Erie 15⅜; do preferred 32.

PARIS, February 3.—The specie in the Bank of France increased 19,088,000 francs the past week. Rentes 87¼ francs 50 centimes.

FRANKFORT, February 3.—United States bonds

[By Associated Press.]

NEW ORLEANS, February 3.—Gold 113. Sight ¼ discount. Sterling—Bank 483@484.

## GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, February 3, 1876.

Trade in a general way is moving along slowly. The change in the weather has improved the demand for certain articles of produce, hence the sales were larger. There is, however, ample room for improvement. Leading dealers are still of the opinion that the spring trade will open early, and that it will be an active one. We sincerely hope that they will not be disappointed. Produce is coming in more freely. Sales, however, as a general thing, was confined to lots to meet the current wants of the trade. In regard to values, any changes that have been made will be found duly recorded.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Flour, bbls | 275 | Corn, bus | 3,800 |
| Wheat bus | 390 | Barley, bus | 3,600 |
| Oats, bus | 575 | Butter, pkgs | 122 |
| Bacon, pcs | 2,500 | Bacon, tcs | 29 |
| Potatoes, bus | 420 | Hay, bales | 529 |

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

### Grain, Flour and Feed.

The market continues to move along slowly, presenting nothing of especial importance, and buyers as a general thing are taking hold sparingly. The following are the quotations in Pittsburgh and Ohio red winter $1 29@1 33, the latter for strictly prime quality; Northwestern red $1 38@1 40; low grades are dull and neglected at $1 15@1 22; rejected do 90c@$1 10, as to quality. Corn is quiet with light receipts at former prices. We quote new shelled at 51@53c for good yellow; new ear 48@50c; for mixed; choice white or yellow; old shelled in elevator is held at 63@65. Oats were active at about former quotations. We quote mixed Pennsylvania and Ohio 39@40c; white do at 42@44c; Western white 42@44c. Barley—Not much doing. Canada we quote held at $1 20@1 35 ₱ bushel; choice spring $1 18@$1 22; common to prime $1 09@1 16; fall $1 10@1 15; low grades nominal at 90c@$1 00. Rye quiet with a sale at 82c, held at 80@83c ₱ bushel. Jobbing sales were made at the usual advance.

FLOUR—The firmness we have before noted continues, whilst there has been an advance in prices. The tendency is evidently that way. The receipts were light. The current rates are as follows: from mills: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 75 ₱ bbl; No. 1 amber do $7 25; red wheat flour $5 75@7 00; in sacks 25c off ₱ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers for standard brands of flour are steady as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $7 75@8 00; well-known brands of family flour $7 00@7 25; Wisconsin is quoted at $8 50@8 75; Minnesota at $7 00@7 00; fancy St. Louis $8 00@8 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; new red winter wheat flour is active at $6 00@6 25; Graham flour $5 75@7 25; self raising flour, in 5 ₱ packages, $5 75@6 00; dozen packages; cornmeal 50c per bushel; cornmeal $6 25 ₱ bbl; kegs $3 50. Rye flour $5 00@5 25 ₱ bbl. Buckwheat flour 25@26c ₱ ℔.

HAY—The increase in the receipts have produced a weaker feeling and lower prices are realizing. We quote good prairie at $12 00@13 00; timothy $17 00@19 00 per ton.

MILL FEED—The demand being moderate the supply was equal to the occasion. We note sales of bran at $14 00@15 00 ₱ ton; shorts and seconds $16 00@18 00 ₱ ton; middlings and chopped feed $20 00@24 00 per ton. Oil meal $40 00@43 00 per ton.

### Provisions.

The market was decidedly firmer with a good demand. Prices in the West are advancing. The present rates are as follows:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hams, Excelsior Sugar Cured, ₱ ℔ | 14½ | Bellefont Sugar Cured, ₱ ℔ | 14½ |
| Breakfast Bacon, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ℔ | 10½ | Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ cans | 16½ |
| Dried Beef, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ ℔ | 14½ | Lard, Refined in 5 ₱ cans, ₱ ℔ | 17 |
| Beef Tongues, Extra Sugar Cured, ₱ doz | 6 50 | Lard, Refined in 3 ₱ cans | 16½ |
| Bacon Shoulders, ₱ ℔ | 9½ | Lard, Refined in 6 ₱ cans, ₱ ℔ | 16½ |
| Bacon, Short Rib Sides, ₱ ℔ | 13 | Ham Sausage, ₱ ℔ | 9 |
| Bacon, Clear Rib Sides, ₱ ℔ | 13¼ | Lard Oil, Extra Winter Strained, ₱ gal | 1 00 |
| Mess Pork, ₱ bbl | 21 00 | Lard Oil, Miners' Winter Strained, ₱ gal | 67 |
| Family Mess Pork, about 25 pieces in bbl, ₱ bbl | 21 00 | Carbon Oil, Standard White, ₱ gal | 12½ |
| Short Cut Mess Pork, about 45 pieces in bbl, ₱ bbl | 21 00 | Cheese, Prime New York or Ohio Goshen, ₱ ℔ | 14 |
| Lard, Prime Leaf in tierces, ₱ ℔ | 13½ | Pigs' Feet, kegs, ₱ 2 00 |
| | | Pigs' Feet, ½ bbls | 4 15 |
| | | Pigs' Feet, 1 bbl | 9 10 |

DRESSED HOGS—The season is drawing to a close. Prices are somewhat easier. We quote nominally 7¾@8¼c ₱ ℔.

SEEDS—We have to report a quiet market. A movement is looked for before long. We quote nominally timothy $2 75@3 00 ₱ bushel; clover $8 50@9 75.

TALLOW—The market was weak with a decline in prices. We quote country at 8@8½c; city rendered 8½@9c.

RAGS—Market steady. We note sales in a regular way at 3c for good washed.

VINEGAR—Market well supplied. We quote country stock 15@20c ₱ gallon; best city make (No. 2) at 15c ₱ gallon with pay for barrels.

### Groceries.

The demand was only a moderate one; buyers are evidently holding off. The supply on the market is considered ample. The present rates are:

| *Green Coffees.* | ₱ ℔. | *Sugars.* | ₱ ℔. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fancy Rio | 25 c | Standard A | 10⅝c |
| Choice Rio | 24 c | Standard B | 10⅝c |
| Prime Rio | 23 c | Do. extra C | 10⅛c |
| Good Rio | 22 c | Good refining C | 9½@9¾c |
| Ordinary Rio | 21 c | C—yellow | 9¼c |
| Java | 33 c | Prime do | 9¾c |
| *Roasted Coffees.* | | Cut Loaf | 12¾c |
| Rio, in papers | 25½@27¾c | Crushed | 12¾c |
| Rio, in bulk | 20½@22½c | Powdered | 12¾c |
| Rio, in bulk | 20@27½c | Granulated | 11 c |
| Java, in papers | 34c | Good fair N | 8½c |
| Java, in bulk | 34½c | Sugar drips | 8¾c |
| *Teas.* | | Prime do | 9½c |
| Young Hyson | 45c@$1 00 | Choice fair do | 10 c |
| Gunpowder | 65c@1 10 | White clarified do | 10 c |
| Imperial | 50c@ 95 | Mixed do | 9½c |
| Japan | 40c@ 95 | Sixty c. N. O. | 8½@9c |
| Oolong | 25c@ 85 | Prime | 9c |
| Fancy | 1 00 | Good | 8½c |
| Nonchong | 35c@ 75 | *Syrups.* | |
| *Starch.* | ₱ ℔. | Ex. white drips | 70c |
| Pearl | 4½@5 c | Sugar drips | 60c |
| Silver gloss | 9½c | Lower grades | 35@50c |
| Corn | 10½c | *Spices.* | |
| *Rice.* | | Cloves | 60 c |
| Choice Car'in | 7¼@8 c | Allspice | 18@19 c |
| Patna | 8@8½ c | Cassia | 21@23 c |
| Rangoon | 7 c | Nutmegs | $1 35 |
| Louisiana | 7 c | Pepper | 22 c |
| *Soda.* | | *Soaps.* | |
| Bi-carb, in kegs | 5 c | Irish soap, ₱ box | $4 25 |
| Bi-carb, in 10 ₱ pkgs | 5½c | S. S. Star, ₱ box | 5 75 |
| Bi-carb, in ½ papers | 7 c | Babbitt's best, ₱ box | 6 00 |
| *Cradles.* | | St. Patric do | 7 00 |
| Star, full weight | 18 c | Co. N. Y. City, ₱ box | 5 50 |
| Stearine | 15½ c | German mottled do | 7½c |
| Mould | 11@12 c | | |

### Country Produce.

APPLES—As noted in our last, the demand is improving. As good, sound apples are becoming scarce, holders are less anxious to sell. Sales of prime to choice at $2 50@3 75; medium to good $2 00@2 25; common $1 50@2 00.

APPLE BUTTER—The receipts have been light and so was the demand. The ruling rates were 6@7c ₱ gallon as to quality and condition.

BEANS—Dealers report a slightly improved demand. There is, however, plenty of room for improvement. Stocks on hand are considered ample. We quote prime navies $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; medium $1 10@1 15.

BUCKWAX—The demand was only moderate and sales were limited. We quote at 35@36c ₱ pound.

EGGS—Dealers report a fair trade demand for the better grades. Sales were made at a variety of prices. Prime to choice 25@28c; medium to good 20@22c; common 12@16c per doz.

CHEESE—As before mentioned, there was a good trade demand for the better grades, and holders exhibited more firmness. Sales were also in a jobbing way: Prime Ohio factory 13¼@14c; New York do 13@13½c; Ohio Sweitzer 13@15c; Limberger 14@16c ₱ ℔.

CIDER—The receipts have fallen off. The market was firmer without any noticeable change. We quote nominally at $6 00@7 00 as to quality and size of barrel.

CRANBERRIES—The demand continues restricted to limited lots to meet the present wants of the markets. We quote nominally at $11 00@13 00 per barrel as per quality.

DRIED FRUITS—The demand was a light one. Prices, however, are without noticeable change. We quote: Peaches, prime halves, 12@13c; peeled, 18@21c. Bright apples, sliced, 10@11c; quarters, 9@10c. Blackberries 14c. Huckleberries 15@20c. Raspberries 30@ 33c. Cherries, pitted, 25@28c; unpitted 8@9c ₱ ℔.

EGGS—With a falling off in the receipts the market was a shade firmer, marked by the change of the weather. Fresh are held at 16@17c ₱ dozen.

HOMINY—The supply exceeds the demand. We quote nominally $3 75@4 00 ₱ barrel.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25@ 28c ₱ ℔; California is quoted at 20c ₱ ℔.

HOPS—In sluggish demand for present use only. Prices are quite depressed. Choice 1875's rule at 15@20c ₱ ℔, while medium have no fixed value. Prices are very unsatisfactory.

MINCE MEAT—In ample supply. We quote nominally 10½@11c ₱ ℔.

NUTS—The demand continues restricted, with an ample supply in the market. The current rates are as follows: Pecans are in fair request at easy prices; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6 @6½c, according to quality; Virginia 7½@8c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; walnuts depressed at 30@40c ₱ bushel; hazel nuts $2 50@3 00 ₱ bushel.

POTATOES—We have to report a dull market, which will, no doubt, continue as long as the supply exceeds the demand. We hear of sales on track at 35@38c per bushel.

POULTRY—The demand is improving, the weather being more favorable for handling. We quote dressed chickens 12@13c per ℔; turkeys 14@16c; live chickens by the coop 5@ 55c per pair.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock and slow. We quote at $1 25@1 50 ₱ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 60@1 75 ₱ bushel. Turnips 35@45c ₱ bushel. Beets 40@50c ₱ bushel. Parsnips 60@70c ₱ bushel.

ALES—In good supply. We quote city brands at 90 ₱ barrel to the trade, and $9 00 to the country; XX ale $10 00; India ale $11 00; half-barrel in proportion.

### Petroleum.

February 3.—The market culminated on Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday morning considerable weakness was manifested. The opening figures were as follows: Conduit and Union $2 10; United $2 08¾. The tone of the market at the opening was dull and weak and by noon prices had declined 2½c per barrel. Early in the afternoon it rallied for a short time, and was quoted: Conduit and Union $2 03¾; United $2 07½, but later in the day prices declined to: Conduit and Union $2 00½; United $2 05. During the past two or three days speculation manifested itself, and tankers who have held stocks hitherto with considerable firmness thought it was time to unload. Should shipment from the oil regions and the export demand continue, as they have commenced, and should production not materially increase, we may reasonably look for a continued activity in the petroleum trade for the whole of this year. Sales are reported of 445,000 barrels.

REFINED—Market quiet; sales were restricted. Prices unchanged.

NEW YORK—There was a moderate shipping inquiry, nothing more, with sales at 14¾@ 14¾c.

Philadelphia—Standard white was quoted at 14¾@14¾c.

BALTIMORE—Prompt delivery is held at 14½c.

OIL BARRELS—Are dull, city make being offered at $1 20.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, February 3.—The *Herald* says: The crude markets of the oil region opened strong, and a rail was made about twelve o'clock from Parkers, followed constantly by bears at Oil City and sympathized with by operators here, who wished to buy cheaper. United, Union and Conduit at wells declined from $1 15 to $1 12½, for old certificates, which latter was the opening figure. The closing quotations at nine P. M. were:

| | Bid. | Asktd. |
|---|---|---|
| United at wells | $2 13¾ | $2 14¾ |
| Union at wells | 2 13¾ | 2 14¾ |
| Pennsylvania at wells | 2 02¾ | 2 03¾ |
| P. F. certificates | 2 32½ | 2 33½ |
| Conduit | 2 13¾ | 2 14¾ |
| Oil City | 2 32½ | 2 33½ |
| Lower creek | 2 31½ | 2 32½ |
| Upper creek | 2 31½ | 2 32½ |

Total sales 338,000 barrels.

OIL CITY, February 3.—The *Derrick* says: United $2 12¾; shipment $2 33 asked. Sales 85,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, February 3, closing 2.—The reports from the creek are of excited and advancing markets, and there is a confident feeling among sellers here restricting business. 1,000 barrels refined for New York delivery brought 14½c. Quotations: Crude in bulk 8¾@8¾c for prompt; do in shipping order 11¾c; refined 14¾c; cases 19¼@19½c; naptha 10¼@10c. At Baltimore refined sold at 14¾c; at Philadelphia 14¾c.

FAIRFIELD, February 3.—Market steady; United and Union $2 07¾; shipment $2 33¾.

TITUSVILLE, February 3.—Market weaker and lower at $2 30.

OIL CITY, February 3.—The market declined rapidly on opening and stopped at $2 06¾; steady at that now, with more buyers than sellers. Large transactions of immediate shipment offered at $2 30.

ROUSEVILLE, February 3.—Market firm at $2 32½@2 33¾.

TIDIOUTE, February 2.—Market firm at $2 32½@2 33¾.

PHILADELPHIA, February 3.—Market quiet; standard white, 14¾@15c; crude 8¾c; cases 19¾c.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, February 3.—Petroleum quiet; crude 8¾@8¾c; refined 14¾c; cases 19¾c.

PHILADELPHIA, February 3.—Petroleum firm; crude in bulk 12c; refined 14¾@15c.

BALTIMORE, February 3.—Petroleum quiet but strong; crude 8¾c; refined 14¾c.

LONDON, February 3.—Refined petroleum 10¾d.

CLEVELAND, February 3.—Petroleum firm and unchanged; standard white, 110 degrees test, 11¾c; State test 12¾c; Michigan State test 15½c.

### Drugs and Chemicals.

DRUGS—There has been a fair jobbing business in drugs since our last report. The following revised list of quotations is furnished by HARTIS & Ewing, wholesale druggists, Liberty street:

| *Acid.* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Acetic | 12 @ | 18 | |
| Citric | 1 10 @ | 1 12 | |
| Oxalic | 12 @ | 22 | |
| Sulphuric | 2½@ | 4½ | |
| Tartaric | 50 @ | 55 | |
| *Oil.* | | | |
| Alcohol, gal | 2 18 @ | 2 35 | |
| *Aloes.* | | | |
| Cape | 16 @ | 20 | |
| Socotra | 40 @ | 50 | |
| Am Carb. | 20 @ | 22 | |
| Aqua | 10 @ | 12 | |
| Muriatic | 2½@ | 3 | |
| *Ashes.* | | | |
| Soda | 4 @ | 5 | |
| Sal Coda. | 2½ @ | 3 | |
| Pearl ash | 5 @ | 6 | |
| *Bark.* | | | |
| Sassafras | 35 @ | 38 | |
| Cinch red | 1 20 @ | 1 30 | |
| " pale | 1 20 @ | 1 30 | |
| " calisaya | 20 @ | 40 | |
| *Blood, Beef.* | | | |
| American | 4 @ | 6 | |
| Cast Ind | 11 @ | 12 | |
| German | 10 @ | 11 | |
| Bone meal | 68 @ | 73 | |
| Blue vitriol | 10 @ | 12 | |
| Borax refined | 14 @ | 17 | |
| Brim salt | 1 75 @ | 2 00 | |
| Flor salt | 5 @ | 6 | |
| Bromide Potassium | 1 @ | 1 10 | |
| Camphor | 1 @ | 1 10 | |
| Cantharides | 2 @ | 2 50 | |
| Capperas | 2 @ | 3 | |
| Cream tartar | 30 @ | 35 | |
| Cubebs | 75 @ | 85 | |
| Indigo | 85 @ | 1 00 | |
| Emery Emb | 10 @ | 12 | |
| Epsom salts | 3 @ | 4 | |
| Sulphate | 70 @ | 75 | |
| Ext Logwood | 13½@ | 14 | |
| Ext Quercitron | 40 @ | 45 | |
| Italian | 25 @ | 30 | |
| Spanish | 25 @ | 30 | |
| Fustic | 3 @ | 4 | |
| Madder | 14 @ | 17 | |
| *Gum.* | | | |
| Arabic sifted | 30 @ | 40 | |
| " White | 50 @ | 60 | |
| Myrrh Turk | 55 @ | 62 | |
| Opium | 6 50 @ | 6 75 | |
| Trag sifted | 35 @ | 50 | |
| " Flake | 90 @ | 1 00 | |
| Hoffm's Anodyne | 45 @ | 49 | |
| Iodine resub | 6 00 @ | 6 25 | |
| Iodine crude | 3 @ | 4 10 | |
| Lead, red | 7½@ | 8 | |
| Logwood, B | 2½@ | 3 | |
| Mace | 1 42 @ | 1 50 | |
| Madder | 14 @ | 17 | |
| Nutmegs | 1 35 @ | 1 40 | |
| Opium | 6 00 @ | 6 25 | |
| Quicksilver | 1 00 @ | 1 05 | |
| Quinine P. Whd | 1 00 @ | 1 10 | |
| Rochelle salts | 30 @ | 40 | |
| Saltpetre | 8 @ | 10 | |
| Sal soda | 1½@ | 2 | |
| Soda ash | 3½@ | 4 | |
| Caustic soda | 8 @ | 9 | |
| Soda bicarb | 3½@ | 4 | |
| Copperas | 2 @ | 3 | |
| Sulphur flour | 3 @ | 4 | |
| Prepared chalk | 8 @ | 10 | |
| Precipitated chalk | 8 @ | 10 | |
| Sulphuric acid | 1½@ | 2 | |
| Muriatic acid | 2½@ | 3 | |
| Nitric acid | 9 @ | 10 | |
| Chloride calcium | 60 @ | 65 | |
| Pure alumina | 8 @ | 10 | |
| Lump alum | 3½@ | 4 | |
| Vitriol, blue | 8 @ | 9 | |
| Vitriol, white | 15 @ | 16 | |
| Vitriol, green | 5 @ | 6 | |
| Zinc, sulphate | 6 @ | 7 | |
| Vanilla Bean | 1 50 @ | 2 00 | |
| Vitriol, Cologne | 3½@ | 4½ | |
| Flake white | 15 @ | 20 | |
| Whiting | 3 @ | 4 | |
| Glue, brown | 15 @ | 17 | |
| Glue, white | 25 @ | 30 | |
| Lamp black | 3 @ | 5 | |
| Varnishes | 1 50 @ | 2 50 | |
| Putty | 3½@ | 4½ | |
| Spirits turpentine, ₱ gal. in barrel lots | 43 @ | 45 | |

ASHES—The market was not very active. The current rates are: Soda ash, common, 3@3½c; refined do 3½@4c; nitric do, pearl 7@7½c; potash 7c; manganese 6¾c; arsenic 5@5½c; flour spar 2½@2¾c per ₱.

### Brooms.

The following are the current rates of Union brooms:

| | |
|---|---|
| Patent screw ferule carpet | $ 4 25 |
| No. 4 extra parlor | 4 25 |
| No. 4 carpet | 3 75 |
| No. 3 carpet | 3 75 |
| No. 6 hurl, 4-string, first quality | 3 50 |
| No. 5 hurl, 4-string, first quality | 3 25 |
| No. 4 hurl, 3-string, first quality | 3 00 |
| No. 3 hurl, 3-string, first quality | 2 75 |
| No. 2 hurl, 3-string, first quality | 2 50 |
| No. 4 stock braid, 3-string | 2 75 |
| No. 5 varnished handles, hurl | 2 75 |
| No. 4 varnished handles, hurl | 2 50 |
| No. 2 common | 2 00 |
| No. 3 shakers | 2 00 |
| Toy brooms | 1 25@1 50 |
| Toy whisk brooms | 1 25@1 75 |

## LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

### Central Stock Yards, East Liberty.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, February 3, 1876.

CATTLE.

Trade, as heretofore noted, was lifeless Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, transactions on the latter day being lighter than for any other dealer can recollect. The market closed quiet at noon to-day, at 25@40c lower than last week on common to medium grades, whilst good cattle, in consequence of their scarcity, ruled but a shade lower. We quote as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Extra, 1,500 to 1,600 lbs | $6 00@6 75 |
| Prime, 1,400 to 1,500 lbs | 5 75@5 90 |
| Good, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs | 4 75@5 25 |
| Common, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs | 4 00@4 62 |

HOGS.

The market, as before noted, has been active all the week. The supply has been light, owing to the change in the weather prices, which were thought to be declining, have stiffened up, and we quote:

| | |
|---|---|
| Best Philadelphias | $8 10@8 25 |
| Best Yorkers | 7 60@7 80 |
| Roughs | 6 50@7 00 |

SHEEP.

The arrivals, as before stated, have not been heavy, and some dealers assert that prices are no better than last week. All sold. We quote as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Extra, 100 to 110 lbs | @6 25@6 50 |
| Extra, 90 to 95 lbs | 5 50@6 00 |
| Fair, 80 to 90 lbs | 5 00@5 50 |
| Common, 70 to 80 lbs | 4 00@4 46 |

[By Associated Press.]

### New York.

NEW YORK, February 3.—Beeves—Receipts 1,260 head, making 3,250 head for three days, against 3,770 head for the same time last week. Average quality almost nil. Inferior to fair, from poor to extra, with 8 cars of Cherokees among the offerings. Market very dull, closing weak, with a downward tendency; buils @1 25@ 4 37½; rough native oxen $6 00@9 00; common to good native steers $7 00@11 50; prime and extra $12 00@12 50; with one car load premium steers at $13 00.

Sheep—Receipts 4,650 head, making 8,420 head for three days, against 13,290 head for the same time last week. Market is a little more active and slightly advanced; extra grades common to prime sheep $5 50@7 25; extra wethers $7 50@7 75; with one car load fancy Kentucky wethers, 121 lbs, at $8 50; and part of a car of lambs $6 00; the lowest price was paid for two car loads of Canadas, averaging 90 lbs.

Lambs—Receipts 1,860 head, making 6,510 head for three days, against 8,720 head for the same time last week. None offered alive.

### Buffalo.

BUFFALO, February 3.—Cattle—Receipts 420 head; total for the week 8,191 head. Market dull and dragging with only ten cars sold; prices a full 25@50c off last week's quotations on last week's quotations.

Hogs—Receipts 3,200 head; total for the week 20,400 head. Market slow; sales 2,700 head; prices firm at the opening quotations of the week on good grades and light; common.

Sheep—Receipts 3,200 head; total for the week 10,800 head. Market fairly active; all sold; Yorkers $7 75@7 90; heavy $7 80@7 85.

### Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, February 3.—Cattle—Market moderately active at unchanged prices; very best $5 87½@6 50; first quality $5 75@5 75; second or good quality $5 25@4 50; ordinary thin steers, oxen and cows $3 00@3 50; best sales at $4 00@5 25. Receipts 1,597 head. Sales 1,056 head.

Hogs—Quiet; heavy range $7 50@10 50. Receipts 4,069 head.

Sheep—Dull and prices a shade lower; range $4 50@6 50. Receipts 1,735 head.

## CITY MATTERS.

FOR eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

### Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank PITTSBURGH, PA., February 3, 1876.

| Time. | Bar. | Th'r. | Hum | Wind. Dir. | Wind. Force. | Weath. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 A. M.. | 29.872 | 14 | 63 | E. | Gentle | Cloudy |
| 2 P. M.. | 30.165 | 25 | 74 | E. | Light. | Cloudy |
| 9 P. M.. | 30.040 | 23 | 88 | S. | Fresh. | Lt sn'w |

Mean barometer.. 30.159 Highest thermom....25
Mean thermom... 23.7 Lowest thermom....6
Rainfall..... .03

**Pittsburgh Female College.**

Next term commences February 4th. Send for catalogue to Rev. I. C. Pershing, D. D., Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Dr. Hunter**

Devotes special attention to diseases of the throat, lungs and ears. Office, No. 178 Fourth avenue, above Grant street. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. FMWtf

**Strike of Window Glass Blowers.**

The blowers at the window glass works of Messrs. A. & D. H. Chambers, Stewart, Estep & Co., Phillips & Co. and S. McKee & Co. have quit work in consequence of the decision of the manufacturers that the wages should be reduced ten per cent. It is to be hoped that some arrangement of the difficulty may be arrived at.

**Auction Sale of Stocks and Bonds**

this evening at half-past seven o'clock, at Thos. F. Stewart's sales rooms, corner Fifth avenue and Wood street.

40 Northern Pacific Railway bonds, $1,000 each, to be sold on account of whom it may concern.
10 shares Boatmen's Insurance Company.
25 shares Allemania Insurance Company.
100 shares Union Bridge.
10 shares Birmingham Fire Insurance Company.

THOS. F. STEWART, Auctioneer.

**Homeopathic Hospital and Dispensary.**

During the month just closed there were issued from this institution one thousand and forty-seven free prescriptions, and one hundred and seventy-five visits made to outdoor patients who were unable to come to the dispensary. There were also one hundred and twenty-three persons vaccinated during the month. The institution is one of our most active charities, and deserves the liberal remembrance of the charitable public.

**Meeting of the Road Committee.**

The Road Committee held their regular monthly meeting yesterday afternoon in the Common Council Chamber, Mr. MacConnell in the chair.

Pay rolls for the month of January were approved as follows: First district, $581 23; Second district, $394 90; Third district, $308 94. Total—$1,283 07.

An ordinance changing the name of Notley street to Delmont street was recommended to Councils for passage. A resolution for a warrant in favor of S. R. Johnston for $200 for work on Crafe street was ordered to be presented to Councils for passage. The petition for construction of the Orphan street boardwalk was approved. The Engineer was directed to report the amount of stone needed for repairs in each district.

Attention was called to the fact that different rates of wages were paid in different districts, and a committee was appointed to report a schedule of wages. A resolution was adopted requiring each Commissioner to make affidavit that he is not interested in any team employed by him.

**COURT PROCEEDINGS.**

**United States District Court—Judge McCandless.**

Titusville Savings Bank, debtor, bankrupt. Thomas J. Smiley, one of said bankrupts, presented a petition for discharge, and an order for final examination before Register Rogers on the 29th inst. was made.

Richard H. and Robert Hammer, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. A meeting of the creditors was ordered for the 11th inst., to ascertain whether the resolution for composition has been passed according to law.

S. S. Marshall & Co., bankrupts, Luzerne county. Rule granted on Jacob Brown and Brown & Grey, creditors, to show cause why the order confirming the Register's report on claims and directing the assignees to pay the same, should not be rescinded, returnable on the 17th inst.

Daniel W. Evans, bankrupt, Pittsburgh. The Marshal was allowed to withdraw from possession as Provisional Assignee of the property of the debtor upon the debtor filing bond of the amount of the property until an assignee is appointed or composition proceedings finally determined upon.

Thomas A. Carothers, bankrupt, Pittsburgh. Register Rogers ordered the bankrupt to pay the claim of Robert E. Stewart, a lien creditor.

Octavius Abbey, bankrupt. An injunction was granted against Alex. Abbey *et al.*

Andrew D. Miller, bankrupt, Pittsburgh. An argument took place on the rule to show cause why the composition proceedings should not be set aside, in so far as the same refers to the surrender of paper, by Messrs. Patterson & Watson for and C. B. M. Smith for the rule. The decision of the Court was reserved.

Hartbaugh, Matthias & Owens, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. An order was made allowing the Pittsburgh National Bank of Commerce to sell certain securities, and after deducting the necessary expense, credit the proceeds on certain notes held by said bank.

Burkhalter, Master & Co. vs. James M. Kintner. On motion of John M. Kennedy, Esq., solicitor of the petitioning creditors, leave was granted to discontinue these proceedings.

Soloman Maguire vs. steamboat Emma Graham. An argument took place on the rule on the respondent to show cause why a decree should not be entered for want of a sufficient answer by Mr. Knox for and Mr. Richardson against the same. Mr. Richardson being admitted specially to argue this case. The Court made a decree in favor of the libellant, and appointed John H. Bailey, Esq., Commissioner to take testimony.

John Wahl, of Scranton, and Clark H. Burrows, of Oil Creek, filed petitions for the benefit of the bankrupt law. Adjudications of bankruptcy, and the usual orders were made.

**Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.**

The case of Francis J. McGuire, a Fifth ward election inspector, indicted for misdemeanor in office, with reference to which was made in yesterday's report, was concluded, the jury finding a verdict of not guilty and directing that the county pay the costs. For reasons stated elsewhere, the defendant was held in $600 to appear at the next term.

James Grady and Bernard Rafferty, indicted for illegal voting, were tried and acquitted and the costs put upon the county. These defendants were charged with casting "proxy" votes at the Second precinct, Fifth ward, polls.

James Braddock, another inspector on the Second precinct, Fifth ward, election board, was tried on an indictment charging him with misdemeanor in office, the jury returning a verdict of not guilty and directing that the county pay the costs.

Patrick White, indicted for misdemeanor as judge of elections in the Second district of the Fifth ward, was acquitted and the county directed to pay the costs.

The jury was unable to agree in the case of Sebastian Sweeney, who is charged with keeping a disorderly house. The prosecutor was Philip Stack.

Augustus Hainsworth, indicted for assault and battery on oath of Joseph Brookmiller, pleaded *nole contendere*.

A jury was called to try James McPhillamy, indicted for felonious arson, after which court adjourned to the usual hour this morning. McPhillamy was the owner of a flouring mill at Sharpsburg, which was burned by an incendiary some months ago.

**TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.**

Commonwealth vs. George Warren, *et al.*, Samuel Keasling *et al.*, Zodok Street, C. S. Black, Chas. Kimball, H. L. Megraw, John Monahan, Chas. Thatcher, Melissa Manser, Louisa Daubman, Worthy Dumbrill, Garrison Moseby, John H. Cummings, John Parker, Daniel Hartz, Eliza Bell, S. Dyer. Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Stowe and Ewing.

M. McCullough, Jr. & Co. vs. Deitrich & Schultz; action for goods sold. Verdict for plaintiffs for $158 10.

Wm. Neely, administrator of Wm. McKinney, deceased vs. Allegheny Trust Company; action on an account. Verdict for defendant for $12,104 45.

Wm. Neely, administrator of Wm. McKinney, deceased vs. Allegheny Trust Company; action on an account. On trial.

John Gaiser vs. heirs of Alex. Haslett, deceased, and Hugh Cargo. On trial.

Edward Brown vs Farrell *et al.* Compromised to take a non suit.

Thos. S. Blair and wife *et al.* vs. the Black Iron and Steel Company. Auditor's report confirmed absolutely.

**TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.**

Sutton vs. Bride *et al.*; Cavanaugh vs. McPherson *et al.*; Quinn vs. McCan *et al.*; Sands & Reineman vs. McKelvy; Duff vs. Rundells *et al.*; Byers vs. Reese *et al.*; Laughlin *et al.*, vs. Blackmore; The Odd Fellows' Savings Bank vs. Moorhead *et al.*; Mellon Bros. vs. Snyder *et al.*; Hamilton, trustee, vs. Campbell *et al.*; McMahon vs. McDermott; Shaw, for use, vs. Dixon *et al.*; Bryan vs. Windsor; Voskamp *et al.* vs. Deuscher; Robinson vs. Fayette Insurance Company, of Allegheny; Hedrick vs. Sipe. Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Ewing and Kirkpatrick.

A. J. Pentecost vs. James Godfrey, John Shankey, Eugene McGary and W. H. McGary, taken up yesterday. On trial.

Wm. Chambers vs. David Gregg, previously reported. On trial.

John Rain vs. C. C. Cole and W. H. Irwin, partners as Cole & Irwin; previously reported. Verdict for plaintiff for $192 71.

**TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.**

Vanclere *et al.* vs. Wilson; McClure & Co. vs. Finney; House vs. Pierce; Gillespie vs. Simpson *et al.*; Arthurs vs. Knock & Lang; Kearns vs. Brown *et al.*; Rafferty, trustee, vs. Campbell; Albertz vs. Mark; Rodelheim, Bing & Co. vs. Cole.

## THE REFORM SCHOOL

## THE PROSECUTION RESTS.

### Opening Testimony for the Defense.

Former Inmates Sustain the Management. Pronounce the Treatment Kind, the Punishments Light, and the Moral Influence Good.

The Committee were promptly on hand at the Reform School yesterday morning, Mr. Plummer in the chair.

Mr. Gill stated that he had some witnesses present, but would not offer any further testimony, unless it became necessary to rebut some of the witnesses for the defense.

Mr. Swartzweider wished to know if the other side were to re-open the case after the defense was through.

Mr. Plummer—We will not allow anything to interfere with a thorough investigation, even if it should take to the end of the Legislative session.

After some further discussion, the Committee determined to hear one more witness for the prosecution.

**STATEMENT OF JAMES CASSIDAY.**

James Cassiday, now about twenty or twenty-one, was then called, and upon being sworn testified as follows: Left the institution in 1865; remember one afternoon to have been whipped one hundred and thirty two or one hundred and forty-four lashes by Mr. Avery; had nothing on but my check shirt; got twelve lashes for every report if not excused by the Superintendent; was ten or twelve years old when I came here; was whipped for bed-wetting; this was not done by me but by my roommate; pleaded not guilty when I was punished; Mr. Avery never found it out until some time afterward; when it was found out I told Mr. Avery; he said the boy should never leave the school; he was not punished at that time; I am certain of having received one hundred and thirty-two lashes; am not certain whether he excused the last twelve or not. Saw a dozen other boys whipped the same day that I was; we had bread and molasses, and on Sundays ginger bread—what they called ginger bread; saw a boy named Henmore and another named Dennis Wright whipped in the hall for trying to escape; saw Henmore whipped while naked by Mr. Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of the school; did not draw blood, but left a mark every time; Dennis Wright was whipped by a new officer; didn't remember his name; he insulted the officer in some way or other; Avery told him to take him down to the dining room and take his hide off or skin him; heard screams coming from the dining rooms; was whipped at other times by Mr. Avery and others; the whippings made us attend to business a little better and made us afraid; so far as the influence it had on us when we came outside, I don't think it helped me any. I thought it my duty for the benefit of the children here and those who would come here, to come here and tell all I know about this institution.

Mr. Gill—If you were now an inmate of the institution, would you be afraid to testify as you have just done?

Witness—Yes, sir; I would have been afraid they would have punished me.

To Mr. Swartzweider—I first told this story to Mrs. McKelvy; came here the day before the Sanitary Fair in the Allegheny Diamond commenced; was whipped twelve times for every time I was reported; was not here more than six months when I was punished; the reason I didn't report my room mate was that I was in the whip shop and had no chance; my room mate was working in the hall; Avery wouldn't hear the boys' report. I didn't know I was reported until I was called up to be whipped and then I pleaded not guilty.

The testimony for the prosecution here closed.

**THE DEFENSE.**

Capt. Augustus Hani was the first witness called. He testified, under oath, as follows:

Was connected with the institution two years at different times; from the spring of 1865 to the spring of 1866, afterwards another year from the spring of 1872 to 1873; was bookkeeper, and sometimes did other work; was librarian part of the time, and taught school part of the time; was not generally present when the whipping was done; think I was present when Cassidy escaped in 1865.

Mr. Swartzweider here repeated the testimony of Cassidy, and asked the witness what he knew about it.

Witness—I don't believe a word of that; Cassidy was a pretty lively boy when he first came here.

**A DAY'S ROUTINE.**

By request the witness gave the following history of a day's routine at the school:

The boys got up at five o'clock; marched in a line to the washhouse; then in a line to school; the school was opened by prayer with singing and prayer; this service was generally conducted by Mr. Avery himself; then they would go out into the yard and remain there until the second bell for breakfast, when they would go in to that meal; had for breakfast bread and molasses and coffee; at dinner what I would call a "good square meal;" they always had an abundance; never heard any complaint on this score; they would then go into the workshops; a recess was taken shortly before dinner, and after dinner they would go to school again, and after that there was some time for amusement; had supper about five o'clock and to bed about eight.

**HOW MR. AVERY PUNISHED.**

In my judgment I thought Mr. Avery was too lenient at times, although he had a way of managing the boys without whipping them, which I didn't understand; never knew him to punish the boys without good cause; saw Mr. Avery strip a boy and put him on a chair; had a whip in his hands—a plaited whip; asked him if he knew what he was there for; then gave him two or three light raps; boy finally acknowledged that he had done wrong and promised he would do better; Mr. Avery then told him to go to his duties and so on—very much to my surprise, as I expected to see him get a very severe whipping; this boy was punished for stubbornness; think Mr. Avery kept a record of the punishment inflicted; from general conclusion as to the reformatory character of the institution is that it is good; of course some will become bad; there were quite a few boys from sixteen to twenty-one; more than there are now; some of the boys were very desperate in violating the rules, but I never knew a case of desperate measures being used; don't think it is possible to carry on an institution of this kind without corporeal punishment; if you let the boys know that you cannot whip them, it would be impossible to manage them.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gill—I think I would have known about it if Cassiday had been whipped one hundred and thirty-two lashes.

Mr. Gill insisted that he tell why he did not believe this boy's oath. The witness was a little inclined to dodge the direct testimony, but finally explained why he did not believe Cassidy's statement, because he thought if he had been whipped in that way he would have heard of it. Another reason was because he saw the boys' backs when they were bathing, and if there were marks on them he would have seen them.

Mr. Gill—What reason have you for concluding this institution is reformatory in its tendency?

Witness—Well, sometimes the boys would come back here—

Mr. Gill—(interrupting)—Like Mr. Cassiday?

Witness—Yes, sir. When these boys came here they would ask to see Mr. Avery, and would be shown about the place; they would call the place an old home, and said it was the best home they ever had; some of them had property, and were getting along well; Mr. Avery generally made a note of these cases, or asked me to do so.

Witness continued—The boys worked better and were reported less when they were whipped.

To the Committee—Saw Mr. McElhany whip a boy in the washhouse; boy had his pants rolled up; thought the whipping was a severe one; didn't know Mr. Hunt; don't remember to have seen Mr. Avery inflict a severe punishment upon any of the boys; some of the boys were stripped when they were whipped; the boys might have been punished severely without my knowing it; got some reports from the boys but the most of them from the other officers.

Mr. Vickers stated at the conclusion of this witness's testimony that he had a witness who would testify to the character of the food, but Mr. Plummer said he could not admit this witness at present.

**ONLY ONE WHIPPING IN FIVE YEARS!**

Ella Smith sworn—Was twice an inmate here; was very small when I first came; was eight or nine years old then; was here about a year, and then went to West Virginia, where I stayed three years; came back of my own accord and remained four years; was discharged by Mr. Gillespie; was here most of the time while Annie Vanderkiste was here; she was a very bad girl—about as bad a one as was ever in the house; she would run off, give impudence and disobey the rules generally. Don't think I ever saw any girl whipped; I got whipped once by Miss McCoy; she used a small whip; she never used a large whip. Never saw Annie handcuffed; would have known it if she had been handcuffed; Annie and Maggie Conway were seated on chairs in the sewing room, but not whipped; never knew of Mr. Avery whipping any girl; don't think he ever kicked any girl; don't think she was ever kept four days without food; she was locked up, but not for four months; never heard of mice in the coffee or rats in the soup; never knew of Miss McCoy telling any of the girls that they were illegitimate, knew of her talking to them kindly; Annie Vanderkiste was never whipped three times; don't think Mr. Avery ever whipped her; the room in which she was confined, above the library, was a very nice room; the lock-up was like any other room, there were steam pipes to heat it.

Mr. Thornton—Don't you think it was very hard that you should be the only one in the school who was whipped?

Witness—No, sir; I deserved it; the girls were all very kindly treated, and had many previleges; never knew any of this cruel treatment which Annie Vanderkist speaks of.

To Mr. Plummer—There could not have been much whipping here without my knowing it. In the morning we got bread and molasses and coffee, and sometimes potatoes and butter; got about the same for supper. At dinner we had soup and vegetables.

To Mr. Swartzweider—We had amusements of various kinds. I had opportunities of seeing how things were going on in the house, both on the boys' and girls' side. If there had been boys whipped in the wash house I could have heard it. I was married here in the chapel by Mr. Avery. Never thought Miss McCoy was cruel. She was very good to all the girls; would talk to them in their rooms for hours. We had prayers night and morning. Miss Byington had a very small whip, but I never saw her use it. Never saw a wagon whip in the house. If there had been such severe whippings, I would have heard about it from the girls themselves. Never heard of any other officers, under Miss McCoy, whipping severely. Never heard complaints of the quality or quantity of food; they always got plenty. Knew a girl named Annie Roberts; she was very bad; never knew of her being whipped severely; never saw a gag used; would have known of it if one had been used; the general tendency of the school was to form the girls; knew of Miss Roberts resisting Miss McCoy for attempting to whip her; she pulled a handful of hair out of Miss Luke's head.

To Mr. Gill—Ella Smith was my name while here; I never saw any girls whipped; heard the screams of Ella Roberts; did not ask her if she had been whipped; she said she had been whipped; she would scream if she was slapped; was not everywhere at the same time; there might have been things done that I did not see; Annie Vanderkiste was bad in the Algeo House; she was impudent and would not do her work right; I did not do everything I was told, but was a good deal better than Annie; Annie might have been whipped without my knowing it; Mr. Avery never whipped her; I was in the house the time Annie said she was tied to the chair, but she was not tied; when Mr. Avery talked to the girls he brought them all together. There was no large whip in the house that I saw. I got presents from Mrs. Avery and others; could not say anything but kind things of them. If there had been any girls locked up three months, I would have known it. Did not say that Miss McCoy never said Annie was illegitimate; I said I never heard her say it; she might have said it and me not hear it. I went out in 1873, October 10th. [Annie went out in May, 1874.]

To Mr. Plummer—Mary Kennedy was a bad girl; she was here after I went out; never knew of her having had her hair cropped.

Mr. Gill thought this witness was remarkable for what she did *not* know.

**A TOUR OF INSPECTION.**

The committee, on invitation of Mr. Bigham, then took a recess, for the purpose of looking through the building. Mr. Bigham said no special preparation had been made, as he had not told the officers of his intention to make the tour. After half an hour's delay, the committee visited the boys' dining room; and saw the boys marched in and seated at the table. The food was abundant, and seemed to be of good quality—soup, bread and potatoes. The girls' dining room was next inspected, the girls being seated at dinner. The last place visited was the Algeo House, where the sewing is done. There they were all busy knitting, and after singing a couple of little songs, to an organ accompaniment, they were marched out to their dinner.

Several members of the committee conversed with a number of the inmates, but he inspection was a hurried one, as the dinner for the committee was in waiting.

The quantity of food was ample, and the quality—although not put to the test—was regarded as very good.

The committee, and others, then proceeded to dinner on their own account.

**WHIPPING FROM 1866 TO 1869.**

P. A. Painter sworn—Was second teacher here; came in the fall of 1866; in June, 1867, was appointed assistant superintendent, and continued until 1868; have seen boys punished, but not cruelly; Mr. Avery punished some, and so did I; saw a boy named Thomas Whitten whipped; recollect of Reddy being whipped; did not witness Mr. Avery whip very many persons; there could not have been many whipped without my seeing the effects; I was in a position to do so, as I saw the boys bathe every Saturday afternoon; if there had been marks on them I could have seen them; the only punishment for wetting or soiling the beds was to put the offenders in a place by themselves and be called "soakers." Never saw any cuts or bruises on the backs of the boys. Mr. Avery seemed averse to inflicting punishment, and he, on one occasion, excused a squad of several boys, who had been reported through misconduct by Mr. McElhaney; this caused Mr. McElhaney to remark that he would punish the boys himself next time; heard Reddy say that "he had a crow to pick with Mr. Avery for punishing him, and would be revenged." Heard him say this in the institution, and also after he left. [Witness spoke of the various amusements which the boys were permitted to indulge in.]

The moral instruction was, in my opinion, good. There could have been no such punishments as have been testified to, or I would undoubtedly have known it.

To Mr. Gill—I have whipped boys for fighting; used a whip; not a wagon whip nor a heavy whip; it was a quirt; was two and a half or three feet long; I have whipped boys hard enough to feel it; Reddy would not have been whipped once and not my knowing it; did not see Mr. Avery whip every boy; think a boy could not be severely whipped without leaving marks; saw a boy once with the eleven hundred lashes without my knowing it, while I was here; Reddy might have been whipped or hung while I was not here; boys were whipped with a whip for fighting, repeated disobedience and misconduct in school. Do not know of any whipped for minor offenses. Talking would be a minor offense, but a grave offense. Never knew of a boy whipped for talking. Do not know of any boys learning any bad that they didn't know before they came. Never knew of any boy being made worse for coming here.

**KIND TREATMENT FROM 1865 TO 1871.**

Miss Belle Watson sworn—Came to the institution in 1865; went out in 1871; was fifteen when I came here; never saw Mr. Avery whip a boy; saw him strip a boy slightly; saw Mary Slater whipped by Miss McCoy, slightly, with a whip; never saw any whipping that I considered severe or cruel; never heard any officers call the girls bad names, cast up their former life or anything of that kind; it could not have happened, or I would have heard of it; what one girl knew they all knew; was more kindly treated here than ever I was at home; I have visited the institution frequently since I left; I would have known if girls had been locked up for weeks, or handcuffed, or had their hair cut off; none ever were treated so while I was here; the treatment was kind, and tended to make them better; Mr. Avery was a kind and benevolent man; and Miss McCoy's treatment was always kind; she would try mildness first, in ways, and punished slightly when that did not avail; much of the punishment was by depriving the inmates of play, of their meals, etc., which was regarded as more than whipping; have seen harder whippings at school (outside the Refuge) than I ever saw here.

To Mr. Gill—I did not see all the whipping; did not know anything about the little girls; saw all the whippings among the large girls; do not think the matron ever took girls away to whip them in private; it could not have been done while I was there; I was not always with Miss McCoy; there might have been whipping I did not know of, if there had been I would have heard it; what one girl knew we all knew: I was not asked by any one to testify here; I saw ridiculous statements in the papers, and came here to tell the truth.

**NO SEVERE PUNISHMENTS.**

Mary O'Hare sworn—Came here in 1865; went out in 1871; was sixteen when I came in; in 1868 was appointed laundry officer; I have seen some punishment, but none severe; saw two girls whipped by Miss McCoy, with a strap about the size of a belt; Elmira Israel and Emma Skinner were the girls; I was whipped twice, but not severely; the whippings I got were sometimes done with a short whip; never saw a long whip. Mr. Avery and Miss McCoy were always kind. I was made better here; felt lonely because I got a little girl married. There was no such a thing as a straight jacket, while I was here. Never heard of bad names being called, or such a thing as locking up girls what they had been. There was no such thing as handcuffs, locking up for weeks at a time, etc. The food was good and plenty; the moral instruction was good; the general treatment was parental, and not tyranical; belong to the Sixth Presbyterian church.

To Mr. Gill—When I was in the laundry, I did not know what was going on in the kitchen; there might have been punishment I did not know of, but think I would have heard of it; I saw only two cases of whipping in six years; Mr. Avery was in the laundry nearly to dinner.

To Mr. Thornton—Two girls escaped while I was here; they were brought back, and sent to their rooms for a few days, knew of no one confined on bread and water while I was here.

To Mr. Findley—There was no handcuffing while I was here, or any straight jackets.

To Mr. Gill—I was sent for by Miss McCoy, but intended to come down any way.

**ANNIE VANDERKISTE NOT WHIPPED AT ALL.**

Victoria Smygo sworn—Was here three years; came in January, 1873; left in February, 1875; am now living with my mother on Smithfield street; was punished twice myself, with a ratan; got three or four cuts for talking. The whipping Annie Vanderkiste testified to, was not so; I was in the laundry at the time, and heard about it; I can only state from hearsay. [Witness then went on to state what she had heard]. Annie had turned on Miss McCoy, and got her by the hair. Mr. Avery was called and talked to Annie about her conduct, but did not whip her. The time Annie said she was so severely whipped, she was not tied at all; her and Maggie Conway were seated on chairs, but they were not tied at both on chairs, but they were not tied at all, and they were not whipped; they were not whipped once, much less three times.

To Mr. Swartzweider—Mary Kennedy and Annie Vanderkiste were very bad girls; Mary Kennedy never had her head shaved, no more than I have mine shaved now; know of no instance of punishment in wagon whips, handcuffing, withholding of food, etc. Miss McCoy was more like a mother than a matron; never cast up anything about past lives, but talked about the future; I am a better girl than when I came here; the influences were good and reformatory in their nature. Miss Byington was not cruel. If she had been, she would have been so to me, as I was about the worst girl she had in the school. Food good and abundant; prayers night and morning. Have heard girls say they spent the happiest days of their lives here.

To Mr. Gill—Liked Annie Vanderkiste; like her yet; think she tells the truth; not as truthful as myself. [Laughter.] She did not tell the truth yesterday. Saw Miss Luke make a straight jacket; supposed it was for Annie Roberts, as she was the worst girl in the house. Was present when Annie Vanderkiste was talked to, the evening she referred to, but she was not whipped as she stated. Miss McCoy never had a large whip.

To Mr. Thornton—Miss Vaukerkiste was not considered untruthful, but she did not tell the truth at all times. I never saw any one that would not tell a story at times.

Mr. Thornton—Even yourself.

Witness—Yes, even myself. [Laughter.]

**PARENTAL GOVERNMENT.**

Jane Snodgrass sworn—Came here in 1868, and left in 1870; no punishments inflicted while I was here, except two; they were not as severely punished as they deserved; Miss McCoy had a small whip, and the punishment was not cruel; Mr. Avery and Miss McCoy were both kind in their treatment—more like parents than anything else. [Witness gave further testimony, tending to establish the good management of the institution, and its reformatory character.]

To Mr. Thornton—I do not associate with any of the inmates now; do not know where any of them lives, except a colored girl.

To Mr. Gill—I kept the rules and was not punished; others did not, and were punished. These could not have been severe punishments, without my knowing it, or hearing of it. What one girl knew they all knew.

**HOW IT WAS TEN YEARS AGO.**

Oliver Moore sworn—Came here in 1862 and left in 1865; have seen cases of punishment in Mr. Avery's time, but not by him; I was punished once, with a whip about two and a half feet long; I had raised a disturbance during devotions, and was whipped by Mr. Wilson; the punishment was over the clothing, and was not severe. There were very few cases of punishment, while I was here, and none of them were cruel. I volunteer this testimony, in justice to Mr. Avery. I am now a carpenter, and work in Allegheny. I cannot say there was cruel treatment before Mr. Avery's time, but whipping was more frequent. [Testified to the general good conduct of the institution, and its tendency to improve.]

To Mr. Plummer—Have visited the institution at least once a year since I went out.

To Mr. Swartzweider—Met Cassiday about two weeks ago, and had a talk with him: I asked Cassiday if he thought they would allow me to hear the investigation; he said he thought they would; he said he then thought he would like to "get a blow" at the institution; I told him I could say nothing but kindness of Mr. Avery. Witness said he came voluntarily, as he thought it was his duty to do so.

The Committee adjourned to meet again this morning at nine o'clock at the same place.

## ALLEGHENY STREETS.

### Committee Meeting Last Evening—Election of a Street Inspector, &c., &c.

The Street Committee of Allegheny Councils met last evening, Mr. Voegtly in the chair.

The City Engineer was directed to notify the contractor for laying the main sewer on Monterey street, to suspend operations until further notice. This action was taken because of the opposition of many property holders to the construction of the sewer.

An ordinance was ordered for grading, paving and curbing Middle alley, from North avenue to Ohio street.

A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Wall, Heagy and Cochran, was appointed to examine the steps in front of Mr. Murdock's house, on West Diamond street, which, it is complained, project beyond the limit allowed by ordinance.

The sub-committee appointed some time ago to examine the grade in Lighthill's plan of lots, reported that the Street Committee had no jurisdiction in the matter.

Messrs. Bedell, Hartman and Wall were appointed a sub-committee to examine complaints in reference to Spruce street.

A communication from John Schatzell, contractor for grading and paving Martin avenue, was read. He asks the committee to adopt such measures as will enable him to undertake the completion of the work by March 1st. He says he cannot proceed because he cannot get the ground to work on. The committee decided to visit the ground before taking action in the matter.

On motion, a communication from a number of Messrs. Heagy, Wilson and Hartman, was appointed to attend to the employment of laborers, carts, etc., for street work during the year.

Mr. Alexander was granted permission to tap the Peach alley sewer.

The appropriation for the current year was fixed at $45,000.

The Street Commissioners were instructed to do the paving of the trenches opened by the Water Committee in laying water mains.

The committee went into nomination for Street Inspector, when the following names were proposed. The votes received on first ballot by each candidate is also given: Israel V. Hogue, 1; John H. Koerner, 2; Nicholas Kelly, 1; Wm. P. Hunker, 1; Benjamin Bird, 2; Samuel Hogue, 1; Wm. Hunker, 1; John McDowd, 1; J. Cunningham, 1.

The committee proceeded to a second ballot, which resulted in no choice. A third ballot was had with a similar result, as was also a fourth, a fifth, a sixth, a seventh and an eighth. On the ninthballot Mr. Hunker had 7 votes and Mr. Hogue 5. Mr. Hunker was declared elected.

A number of bills were considered, after which the committee adjourned.

## OUR STREETS.

### Meeting of the Street Committee—Approval of Pay Rolls and Other Business.

The Street Committee met last evening in the Common Council Chamber, Mr. Thomson in the chair.

Pay rolls as follows were approved: First district, $672 01; second district, $669 39; third district, $368 41; fifth district, $593 87; sixth district, $452 87; seventh district, $466 59; Engineer's department, $1,014 58; Viewers' department, $478.

The ordinance providing for cleaning the streets of the first and second street districts by contract, was amended by striking out a clause providing that the committee shall have the right to reject any or all bids, and was ordered to be returned to Councils with a recommendation for its passage. An ordinance for a brick sewer on property of M. McCullough on Forty-second street was ordered to be sent to Councils for passage. Benjamin Bird's license crossing on Eleventh street was passed.

An ordinance regulating the building of private sewers to connect with public sewers, was referred to the sub-committee (Messrs. Weldon, Kettenburg and Flinn,) and the City Engineer. An ordinance authorizing assessment of damages caused by the grading of Thirty-third street was ordered. An ordinance for a boardwalk on Grandview avenue, was recommended to Councils for passage.

An ordinance adjusting the assessments for the boardwalk on Yards alley was referred to sub-committee (Messrs. Hollday, Dyer and Moore) and the City Attorney directed to stay proceedings for the present.

Resolution instructing the Street Commissioners to change the old style "stench" sewer drops was passed.

Viewers' report on damages caused by the grading of Carson street, was ordered to be referred to Councils with a negative recommendation.

A resolution for stone crossings on Fifth street, Carson street, Thirtieth ward, and Thirty-seventh street was passed.

The Engineer was directed to fix a grade for Penn avenue from Thirty-second street to Butler street, so that a proper connection can be made with Thirty-third street.

Ordinances for opening, grading and paving of Center street were ordered to be reported.

Petition of Equitable Storage Company for right to construct a switch track on Smallman street was referred to a subcommittee.

A resolution was passed, providing that the roll of no commissioner shall be approved who is in any way interested in the hire of teams.

An ordinance was ordered for the grading and paving of forty-seventh street, from the Allegheny Valley Railroad to the Allegheny river.

### Shoplifters Arrested.

The Mayor's detectives yesterday arrested two women named respectively Mrs. Dunn and Mary Gaffney, charged with shoplifting. The arrests were made at De Roy's pawn shop, where the parties spent considerable time examining jewelry without any apparent intention of buying. Mrs. Dunn is an elderly woman, and both claimed to be from New Brunswick. Being taken to Chief Hartzell's office and searched, upon the person of Mrs. Dunn were found secreted a pair of gaiters, which were identified by Mr. W. G. Hoover, jeweler, of Fifth avenue. They had been taken on Wednesday evening, when the parties had been there examining goods. Mr. Hoover made information against them for larceny, and waiving a hearing, the defendants were committed to jail. Previous to their departure for the county prison the pair began to tell on one another.

Mrs. Dunn said she was a resident of Brunswick, New Jersey. She had been sent to jail for liberating a woman who had attacked her daughter. While in prison she became acquainted with Mary Ann Spencer, who paid the fine and costs charged against her, and secured her liberty. Her liberator had been placed in jail for shoplifting, but had secured bail, and had thus been released. She was grateful to her liberator, and when the latter proposed to pay her three dollars per day, secure her a pass to the West and then assist her in pre-empting a homestead in Michigan she agreed to go with her. She also stated that her liberator had "lifted" the shoes at Hoover's and had given them to her to take to the hotel.

Mary Ann denied this story and said Mrs. Dunn had led her astray, and asserted that the latter was ignorant enough to suppose that she would be liberated by asserting that she (Mary Ann) had stolen the gaiters. She told how the elderly female had lifted various other articles on Wednesday, among other things a waterproof cloak.

## BALLOT BOX STUFFING.

### The Case of Election Inspector McGuire—A Verdict of Not Guilty is Followed by an Unexpected Development.

The case of Francis J. McGuire is briefly referred to our court report. Judge Sterrett, in his charge to the jury yesterday, gave a history of the case, explaining the manner in which it had been brought into court. For several years past, he said, the law authorized the appointment of overseers, on the petition of citizens, whose business it was to be present at the polls and see that the election laws were faithfully observed. So important was this matter regarded by the members of the Constitutional Convention that they inserted a clause giving the Common Pleas Court of the State power to appoint overseers to supervise proceedings and make report to the court. These overseers were appointed on the petition of five citizens, and were to be members of different political parties. Whenever there was a difference of opinion among the members of the election board, these overseers were to decide the question, provided they concurred in their opinions. In this case, on the proper petition, Mr. Lewis was appointed Republican overseer, and Patrick C. Dean, Democratic overseer. The election law provided a new system for counting votes, this being the business of the Judges of the county courts, instead of the election officers, as formerly. Judges Stowe and Ewing were assigned for this business, and to them a report was made by Overseer Lewis, to the effect that ballots had been destroyed, votes illegally received, and that the ballot box had been "stuffed" with twenty-two tickets. Upon this report indictments had been found against the defendant, together with the other members of the election board, as well as against the persons who cast the alleged illegal votes.

The indictment against the defendant contained five counts. The first count charged him, as Inspector of Elections—having been duly elected—with having unlawfully permitted, assisted, advised and incited certain persons to deface, alter, substitute and destroy certain ballots, lawfully taken by the election officers. The Court said there was no evidence to support this count. The evidence was that twenty-two tickets were found in the box, folded together in such a way as to indicate that they had been fraudulently placed there. One of the officers stated at the time that in his opinion a fraud had been committed, and the Board agreed to lay the ballots aside until they had counted the rest. The rest of the ballots were properly numbered and corresponded with the poll list. Under this state of affairs the first count could not be sustained. If what had been put in evidence were true, it was clear that a fraud had been committed by some one.

The second count charged the defendant, as inspector, with having unlawfully and knowingly received ballots of certain persons, whose names were unknown, and who were not qualified to vote. There was no evidence to support this count, the Judge said. The third count charged the defendant with having allowed Bernard Rafferty to vote, he not being a qualified elector of the district. The testimony, the Judge said, did not show anything of the kind. It showed that Mr. Rafferty inquired of the election board whether he could vote for Mr. Kelly, and with the boards consent, he did do so.

The fourth count charged the defendant with having knowingly permitted, procured and directed the ballot of John Keisey, who was a qualified elector of this district to vote, he not being a qualified elector to be received from the hands of Bernard Rafferty. The fifth count was similar to the fourth, charging the defendant with having knowingly permitted the vote of James Elliott to be received from the hands of James Grady. There was no doubt, according to the testimony, that these proxy votes were received by Rafferty for injuries of the election officers whether he could deposit Kelley's vote, whereupon the officers went into consultation and agreed that he could. Mr. Rafferty did deposit the vote, and it was entered on the poll list in a way to indicate exactly how it was done. The entry was made at the request of Mr. Lewis, and so it was with regard to the other vote by proxy. It was conceded, the Judge said, that both Kelley and Elliott were qualified electors of the district. That this action of the board was wrong and in violation of the elction law, there was no doubt; no person was allowed to vote except through the proxy. The only question was whether the defendant knew he was violating the law when he permitted these votes to be received. If he knew he was wrong, and assisted in the reception of these votes, he was guilty of misdemeanor. But if the defendant and the rest of the board received the votes, not knowing that they were violating the law, but believing themselves to be right, they were not guilty of a misdemeanor. The whole case turned on the question of guilty knowledge. If the defendant knew that proxy votes should not be received, he should have objected to their reception; but he claimed that he did not know this, and that he was guided by the fact that there was no private prosecutor in this case, it having been brought in a way different from the ordinary course, and that he should find a verdict of acquittal, it was their business to say whether the costs should be paid by the county or the defendant, or divided.

After an absence of several hours the j